

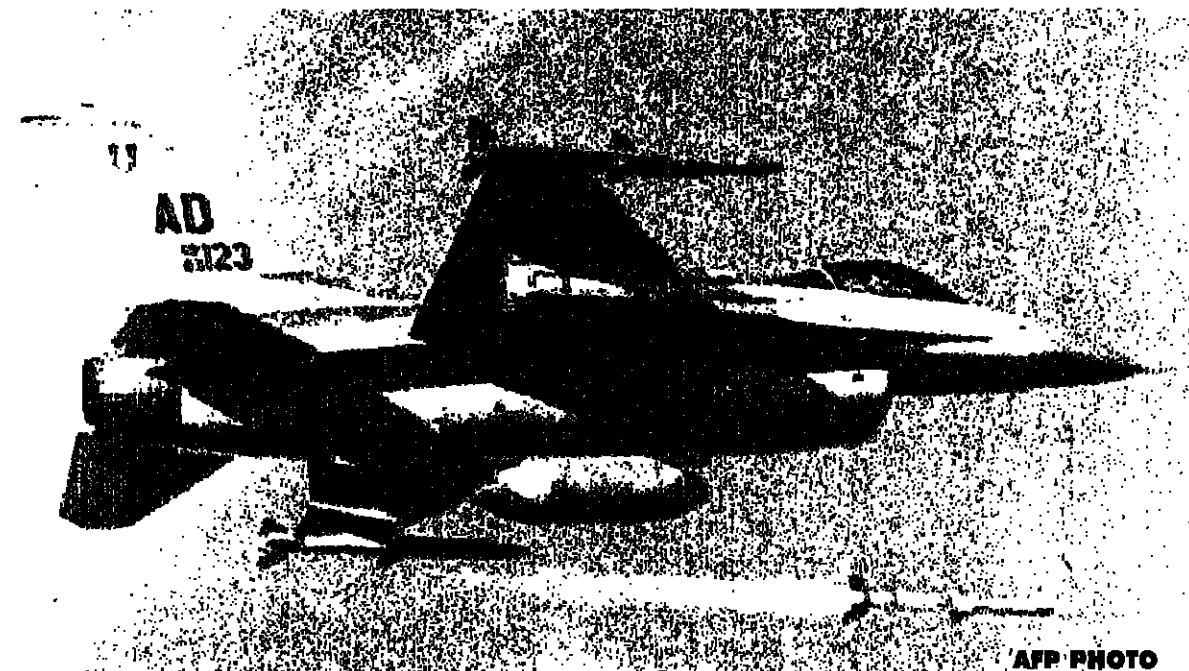
The weather will be warm during the day and moderate at night. Winds are light northerly, moderate.



In Aqaba, weather will be warm, winds northerly moderate and seas calm.



VEDRINE BACKS POLITICAL INITIATIVE COHEN REINFORCES MILITARY SUPPORT AGAINST IRAQ



AFP PHOTO

(FILES) An undated file picture shows a US F-16 warplane firing an AIM 120 advanced medium range air-to-air missile AMRAAM.

Arabian Gulf (AGENCIES) — The United States agreed Sunday to sell Saudi Arabia sophisticated air-to-air missiles in response to worries about military threats from Iraq and Iran.

US Defense Secretary William Cohen also agreed with his Saudi counterpart, Prince Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz, to increase joint military training to include ground forces from the two countries. The move breaks a long Saudi preference for avoiding overt shows of joint military force with the United States.

The details of the sale of Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles, or AMRAAMs, remain to be worked out, including how many missiles will be transferred and how much they will cost.

US Congress must approve the sale. But the deal would only add to a US-to-Saudi foreign military sales program that already is the largest in the world, totaling close to \$3 billion last year.

Saudi Arabia has requested the weapons for years for use with its fleet of F-16 fighters. Earlier in his eight-day swing through the Middle East, Cohen agreed to sell Bahrain 26 AMRAAMs. He also planned to discuss arms sales with other Gulf partners.

The AMRAAM, a 3.6-meter-long weapon slung under the wing of a fighter plane, can be fired at an enemy plane as the pilot conducts evasive maneuvers. An improved model of the missile, built by Raytheon Co. and Hughes Missiles and Space, is more capable against lower-altitude targets.

Until recently the supersonic missile was considered too advanced to be sold outside of NATO. It can be fired from beyond visual range and has an active radar that guides the missile to its target. It costs 386,000 dollars a copy.

William Cohen told US troops manning a Patriot anti-missile battery in Riyadh Sunday to be ready to "take on" Saddam Hussein, but his Middle East tour came under attack in the Gulf press.

Cohen inspected a battery of eight launchers aimed toward Iraq at a dusty site at Riyadh air base and watched a launch drill. But in Abu Dhabi, where Cohen arrives today, a semi-official Emirati newspaper charged the secretary with trying to drum up support for a plan to break up Iraq.

"William Cohen's tour this time includes a new plan to establish a Kurdish entity in the north of Iraq, linked to the rest of the country by a federal formula," Al Khaleej said.

And the Kurdish entity would "serve as a launch pad for the Iraqi opposition," it wrote, quoting diplomatic sources.

Al Khaleej did not rule out a US request to Gulf countries to

"supply material aid for the American plan to overthrow Saddam Hussein by supporting Iraqi opposition groups."

It urged the Arabs "not to allow the Americans plans to transit through them and not to join in the crime of destroying Iraq and breaking it up because they themselves will not escape the consequences."



An Iraqi military volunteer trains on an anti-aircraft machine gun yesterday.



France's Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine, right, meets with the new Emir of Bahrain Sheikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, in Manama, on Sunday.

In Dubai, Al Bayan, which also reflects official thinking, lambasted Washington for "ignoring recent international criticism against continuing the raids on Iraq and for its insistence at sealing Iraqi civilian installations."

"The new strategy that Washington is trying to propagate through William Cohen in the countries of the region aggravates rather than resolves the problem," the daily added.

It urged "a settlement of the Iraqi crisis through international legitimacy and not by maintaining an embargo against a defenseless people."

Cohen met later Sunday with Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz and Defense Minister Prince Sultan, before travelling on to Oman.

Saudi King Fahd, in a meeting with Cohen on Saturday, reaffirmed Riyadh's support for Washington.

On the other hand, French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine said he had heard "encouraging responses" on a Gulf tour seeking backing for a political rather than military initiative to end the Iraq crisis.

"I found at each stage a real desire to talk with France about her ideas [and] a lot of interest," Vedrine told a press conference in Kuwait City, as he ended a regional tour which included the United Arab Emirates and Qatar.

Vedrine said Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait, the Gulf state least likely to be receptive to the plan, "told me Kuwait would support any move which guarantees regional security."

"I reminded my counterpart that our ideas on arms control and financial control" of Iraq "center on this aim, regional security. Lifting the sanctions is only a consequence."

Vedrine has been critical throughout his trip of the almost daily raids by US and British aircraft patrolling the air exclusion zones over northern and southern Iraq as unhelpful at reaching a peaceful solution.

"The military developments don't correspond with the way in which we are trying to resolve the problem," he said in Kuwait City.

Paris is calling for the UN Security Council to consider a plan to lift the oil embargo on Iraq but at the same time to set up a new system of long-term monitoring of its arms programs.

Iraq has been under crippling sanctions since its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

THE ARAB DAILY

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PRINCE FELIPE OF SPAIN IN TOWN

FLOUR MILLS CALL ON GOVERNMENT TO RETRACT 'LOW QUALITY' BREAD WHEAT

WHO WON THE SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS?

Official '98 statistics reveal: 40-50 WOMEN REPORTED ABUSE EVERY MONTH

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS by the Family Protection Unit (FPU), 33.2% of cases admitted at the unit in 1998 were that of physical abuse of children, 28.8% rape of children, 11.4% of women, 11% sexual abuse of children and 9.2% physical abuse of women.

The unpublished statistics by the Family Protection Unit (FPU) at the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), in cooperation with the National Institute of Forensic Medicine (NIFM), reveal that at least one woman is being subjected to one form of violence or another every day. In addition, many cases were reported suggesting alarming figures according to both sources at the departments.

Forty to fifty women report physical abuse on a monthly basis. Some suspect that only one out of ten report such abuse," says a senior official at NIFM.

Figures also reveal that sexual abuse and rape against women were amongst the most common crimes in the country during 1998, with an average of five cases a month in Jordan only.

"Children being subjected to sexual abuse of various types topped the list of domestic violence cases in the year with an average of 10 cases a month."

Over two thirds of violence against women were committed by someone they know, husbands in most cases.

At least 40-50 women are brought to the NIFM for a virginity test, some have been killed later on under the pretext of "crimes of honor," says the official.

"Most of the cases being checked up at the institute are proven instances of any sexual conduct, never mind, they get killed by a family member regardless of medical checkup results," says Hani Jishan, an NIFM physician.

clan.

With a total of 437 cases handled by the FPU last year, statistics show that women remain victims in most of cases because not much assistance could be provided by the unit established in the same year.

According to Lt. Col. Fadel Hammad, head of the FPU, the unit no longer deals with domestic violence against women, when the offenders are their husbands because "the large number of women who reported being victimized by their husbands posed a serious problem to the unit since no safe shelter is available to receive them."

"They have to resort to police stations and file a case," says Hammad.

At the police station, women are not "taken seriously with the police marginalizing the problem as a simple family dispute," says the police officer.

This has left many women victimized by intimates with no choice but to keep silent, fearing reprisals from the aggressor.

According to women rights activist and lawyer, Asma Khader, many of work place problems such as "absenteeism, lower productivity and excessive use of medical benefits are due to family violence."

Women are forced to keep a low profile of their suffering in fear of being deprived of their rights, which in most cases they are not even aware of, adds Khader.

According to Hammad, technology should be introduced to make it easier for victims.

"We are hoping that instead of subjecting the victim to a number of interrogations by experts at the FPU, the Attorney General and later by the court, a video-taped first interrogation is used to serve all three parties, thus saving the woman or child the agony of undergoing the experience over and over again."

However, domestic abuse is not only physical, what is also very damaging is emotional abuse, which results in loss of confidence and low self-esteem for women.

"Underestimation, marginalization of opinion, negligence of personal needs and not handing out assistance," says Khader, "are very common problems."

"The law has no authority on these forms of abuses," she adds.

The laws of the country, however, also weigh heavily on women rights, mounting to the level of legal abuse.

"It's a joke that Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning Rima Khalaf, though planning for the economy of the country and introducing economic reform programs, she, as a woman, is a victim of legal abuse when she cannot travel outside the country without the approval of her husband according to article 12 of the civil status code, the case of any other Jordanian woman," says Khader, using the deputy prime minister as an example of what may happen if the husband wishes.

According to those involved in the struggle against abuse, a legal umbrella to unite all scattered efforts by various NGOs is urgently needed.

Neither police nor NGOs can separately undertake the task of reducing violence against women. Parties should cooperate and organize all efforts to reach a conclusion, Jishan and Khader maintain.

One major fact that should be

taken into consideration is that domestic violence does not only occur in poor, urban societies. Women of all cultures, occupations, income levels, and ages are battered.

Manal, although a pharmacist married to an engineer, was a typical victim of physical abuse by her spouse.

"I have undergone severe physical and emotional abuse by my husband, he would come up with any reason to start a fight, which most of the time would end with a bruise or a cut," Manal told The Arab Daily yesterday.

"At the beginning I was embarrassed to tell anybody in fear of being accused of misbehavior which is the case in our society when a

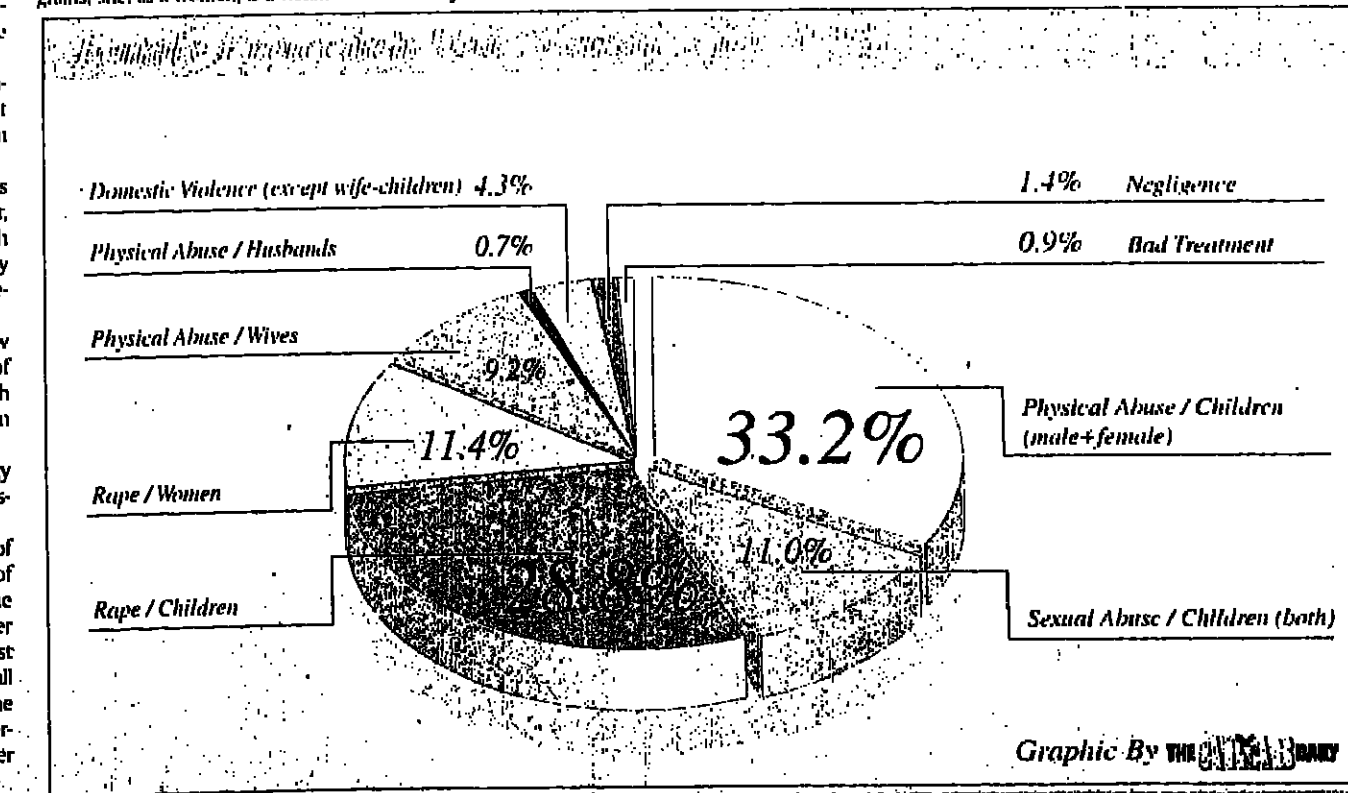
by EMAN AKOUR

woman accuses her husband of beating her up."

"I had to suffer in silence, make up lies for my family and friends about my bruises until I couldn't take it anymore. This is when I decided to go to the police and file a case against him," Manal continues.

"I can't deny I wasn't scared at the beginning, but things went smoother than expected: in less than a year of fighting and determination I was divorced."

"He, of course accused me of all sorts of misconduct, something that I'm still paying the price for, just because he is a man and his word is taken for granted."



DOES YOUR CHILD STUTTER? CHECK OUT PARENTING AND EDUCATION ON PAGES 16 & 17

SPAIN'S PRINCE FILIPE IN TOWN



Prince Felipe upon arrival in Amman

Agencies — SPAIN'S CROWN PRINCE Felipe arrived in Amman Monday on an official three day visit to Jordan during which he will meet with His Majesty King Abdullah and Jordanian officials.

Upon arrival Prince Felipe, accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Faisal, visited the tomb of His Majesty the late King where he placed a wreath of flowers.

The Prince also called on Her Majesty Queen Noor and Her Royal Highness Princess Rania to offer his condolences to members of the Royal Family.

Prince Felipe later held talks with Prime Minister Abdur-Raouf Rawabdeh on bilateral ties, particularly in the economic field.

The Crown Prince expressed appreciation of Jordan's stands on several issues and events that took place on the regional and international levels, saying "these stands have enjoyed the respect of leaders and people Worldwide."

Prince Felipe said the world stands in respect for Jordan's continued achievements over the past decades, enabling it to assume a leading role on the world arena.



Spanish Crown Prince laying a wreath on the tomb of the late King Hussein

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Abdul-Ilah Khatib, Minister of Interior, Nayef Al-Qadi and Prince Felipe's accompanying delegation.

In remarks to reporters following the meeting, Rawabdeh affirmed Jordan's keenness to further strengthen relations between Jordan and Spain, the foundations of which were laid down by the late King Hussein, and King Juan Carlos.

Rawabdeh said relations between the two countries go back to 1949 when diplomatic ties were first established between the two governments,

and that the two Royal families enjoy a strong friendship on the personal level.

The Prime Minister hailed Spain's stands in support of Jordan in the various fields, and affirmed the government's determination to reinforce economic ties with Spain, particularly in the area the environment, and joint projects by the private sectors of both parties.

Prince Felipe later met with members of the Jordanian Spanish Friendship Society, chaired by Senator Taher Al-Masri.

The Society was established in

1998 to promote the existing friendly relations between the two countries.

It holds in its membership a number of Jordanian personalities from both the public and private sectors, as well representatives of the various sectors, making up its General Assembly.

With King Abdullah and King Juan Carlos as Patrons, the society aims to further enhance economic, social, cultural and tourist exchange between the two people.

The Society will resume its activities when the Kingdom's official mourning period is over.

KING COMMENDS QATAR'S STEPS TOWARDS DEMOCRACY

HIS MAJESTY KING Abdullah sent a cable to the Emir of Qatar Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, commending the Emir's directives to allow Qatari women to run in municipal elections, along with their fellow men.

The King said he has followed with deep interest and satisfaction the electoral process which the Emir has ordered, in a bid to strengthen democratic life and reinforce public participation in the decision making of the country.

King Abdullah said granting women equal rights to participate in the elections "reflects the Emir's wisdom, foresight and determination to bring about equality in order for women to assume their role in the service of their nation".

In his cable, the King went on to express his deep appreciation of the pioneering Qatari move towards democracy, and extended his best wishes for the success and enhancement of the Qatari experience.

"On behalf of the people and government of Jordan, I extend my deepest brotherly congratulations on this distinguished and courageous move taken by Qatar thanks to your wise directives and leadership, and determination to strengthen the principle of participation that allows each citizen to utilize his creative capabilities in the service of his people", the King said.

KING CONGRATULATES ASSAD ON NATIONAL DAY

HIS MAJESTY KING Abdullah sent a cable of congratulations to Syria's President Hafez Al-Assad on the occasion of his country's National Day.

In his cable, the King extended the wishes of the government and people of Jordan to the President and

people of Syria on the occasion.

"It is my great pleasure, to extend to you on behalf of the people and government of Jordan, my most sincere wishes on this occasion that embodies the aspirations of the brotherly people of Syria under your wise leadership".

His Majesty wished Assad good health and his people continued prosperity and progress, and affirmed the Kingdom's determination to maintain and further strengthen the good relations between the two countries and peoples — Petra.

MAJALI RECEIVES SUDANESE DELEGATION

DEPUTIZING FOR HIS Majesty King Abdullah, Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Hadi Al Majali received Monday an official Sudanese delegation that arrived in Amman to offer condolences over the passing of His Majesty the late King Hussein.

Al Majali expressed the government's appreciation for the kind sentiments expressed by the Sudanese President during his participation in the funeral.

In remarks to Senate: RAWABDEH: NO MIRACLES PROMISED



THE ARAB DAILY — Rawabdeh has assured the Senate of his government's determination to maintain and further activate cooperation between the cabinet and the members of Parliament.

Senate Speaker Zaid Rifai extended his congratulations to Rawabdeh over the royal confidence and wished the new Prime Minister and his cabinet members success in their mission.

Rawabdeh said he looked forward to

a new era of work for the prosperity of the Kingdom, and expressed hope he would be able to shoulder the upcoming responsibilities.

Rawabdeh said he would not promise miracles, but pledged to do his utmost together with his ministers to implement the directives of His Majesty King Abdullah in his letter of designation to the new government.

He told the Senate however, that he

"came from the heart of the legislative authority that represent the hopes and aspirations of the people".

He called on the Parliament members to keep an open dialogue with the government to help it fulfill its duties.

The Prime Minister said "his government does not have agendas, but rather one national agenda aimed at serving the best interests of the country".

RAMZI E. KHOURY
Editor-in-Chief



The piasters that make sense

A commendable move, the Family Protection Unit was established last year to investigate sexual violence against women and children by family members or strangers, physical abuse (unrelated to sex) against children by family members and domestic violence against women. The latter was put on hold because shelters protecting abused women are simply not available.

Where in place, such shelters have proved life-saving for battered women. Fleeing their boyfriends, husbands or fathers, women in many cases have no money or any other type of security that would help them survive the detachment or allow them to start a new life away from violence.

Elsewhere than Jordan, women are adopted temporarily by these shelters until they are physically and emotionally ready to stand on their own feet. These shelters are considered the responsibility of society itself, which has produced the means for these women to be harmed in the first place.

Here in Jordan, not only do we see some women hard hit by those who are supposed to love them, but some find themselves condemned to death by those who are supposed to protect them.

So true, that some are now living in jail with convicted criminals for no fault of their own - yet for their protection - with no apparent solution to their dilemma.

Are we so hard up that we cannot setup a safe haven for those condemned by the backwardness of our society and narrow-mindedness of our ways? How much will it cost? Piasters when we are talking about life.

PRINCE FAISAL RECEIVES UAE MILITARY OFFICIAL

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS Prince Faisal, accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Faisal, visited the tomb of His Majesty the late King where he placed a wreath of flowers.

PRINCESS RANIA RECEIVES WOMEN DELEGATIONS

HRH PRINCESS RANIA Al Abdullah received Monday a number of delegations representing voluntary, charity, educational, and cultural bodies from all over the Kingdom who offered the Princess their condolences over the passing of the late King Hussein.



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Chairman

Ramzi E. Khoury
Managing Director

Youssef Hroub
Editor in Chief

Jane Lama
Art Director

EDITORS

George Stalker - Economy

Alkham El Tall - International

Nelly Lamm - Culture & Art

Youssef Hroub - Sports

Youssef Hroub - Photography

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Thamer Zaidat
Business Manager

Zina Karam
Program Manager

Lara Badran
Program Manager

Tina Elias
Subscription Manager

Phone: 962 6 5641177-5678637-5678637-5678458
Fax: 5676766, P.O. Box 964196 Amman 11196-Jordan
Web site: www.arabdaily.com.jo (under construction)

ON LAST INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY OF THE CENTURY

What do they have to say!

A LEADING ACTIVIST in the field of women's rights said although Jordanian women have substantial achievements, laws have not been updated yet to ensure their full rights. "Jordan has signed in 1992 an agreement which stipulates that all forms of gender discrimination should be alleviated. Legislation, however were not amended to fulfill the terms included in the agreement," said advocate Asma Khader, who is Coordinator of Sisterhood Global Institute and And a human rights activist.

Khader said the Royal Letter of Designation addressed to the Prime Minister has catered for Women's causes, when The King directed the new government to put an end to

discrimination among citizens and to give women, especially in the Badia and the rural areas, their full rights.

Khader added that women who are victimized by family violence are reluctant to complain to the authorities because they cannot provide evidence for assaults taking place within the family.

According to the expert, women hesitate to pursue their husbands because the latters will go to jail if abuse is proven. As a consequence, the family will lose its supporter.

"There should be other penalties rather than imprisonment," demanded the lawyer.

In Khader's viewpoint, this is not the only legal change to be brought

about. She said the following points are worth review.

First: Social security, military and civil pension laws should be amended so that a working woman's family, in the event of her death, can receive her pension allowance, as with the case of male pensioners.

Second: Nationality regulations should allow a Jordanian woman's children to acquire the Jordanian nationality when their father is non Jordanian.

Moreover, restrictions regarding children's residence permits should be loosened.

Third: Although the law has been changed, in practice women applying for passports are still required to obtain their husbands' consent

to that end.

Fourth: The extenuating circumstances provided for in the criminal law apply exclusively to men in the 'honor killing' cases.

Now if a woman kills her husband for committing adultery, she is not liable to a reduced sentence on equal terms, had her husband committed the same murder.

Fifth: A) the Civil Statute Code gives the husband the absolute right to divorce his wife without referring to the court.

This is an arbitrary divorce and yet divorcees are not compensated for the harm done.

B) As regards to unconditional polygamy, Islamic law is not observed.

Islam sets the following conditions before allowing a man to marry more than one wife.

First, his purpose should be mentioned to make sure his move is justifiable. Then both the present wife and the new one should be informed of the matter, and the former has the choice of asking for divorce. Most importantly, the husband should be financially capable of supporting his families.

C) Alimony for the divorced wife should be proportionate to the standard of living. On the other hand, there should be effective measures to prevent the husband from evading payment of the alimonies.

Interview by HIYAM SHARAH

Her Majesty Queen Noor is a member and former President of the ISC, which is an advocacy group comprising 15 wives of heads of states and governments representing the world's five regions, who promote the implementation of the Geneva Declaration for Rural Women through the mobilization of political will and public opinion and the formulation and implementation of national policies for rural women around the world.

The ISC has supported the establishment of innovative pilot projects that seek, within their local areas of impact,

to reduce poverty and raise living standards primarily by building on the knowledge and productivity of rural women. The projects have ranged from a new Rural Women's Network in Saint Lucia and the establishment of a first women's bank in Pakistan to rural micro enterprises and poverty-eradication programs in East Asia as well as integrated production and training projects for women within a broader development model that also fosters legal changes and political participation in Jordan and other Arab countries.



First ladies and special envoys from the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas took part in the 1996 Meeting of the International Steering Committee on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women (ISC), hosted by the ISC President Her Majesty Queen Noor and the Near East Foundation (NEF), in Amman from 14-16 May 1996 - File Photo

International Womens Day 1999

Aims:
Highlight worldwide progress achieved and strategies contributing to change.
Identify next steps for a life free of violence for women.
Call for renewed international, national and grassroots commitment.

A VICTIM OF VIOLENCE

TWENTY EIGHT YEAR old Hanan was shot to death because she had a jealous husband.

The story began when the 32 year old husband, who works abroad, was on a vacation at home when he heard rumors about his wife having an affair.

He was furious and confronted her with continued accusations, heating up at times to reach a stage of violence.

The wife used to forcefully deny the rumors and appeal to her husband to trust her. But the husband would not listen, and the same vicious cycle would continue, and the wife would end up being beaten.

Unable to tolerate the situation any longer, Hanan left the matrimonial house and went to court for a separation and divorce suit.

She won the case and the court decision was put into force, preventing her husband from interfering in her life.

The husband, however, could not accept the reality of the situation, and not abiding by the court decision, went to visit his wife.

On reaching the building he spotted his wife talking to a male neighbor. Furious and furious at the scene of his wife with another man, he headed towards her and started interrogating

her about her relation with neighbor. Feeling secured by the power of the law behind her, Hanan told her husband that it was not his business who she was talking to.

Here the husband was reaching a degree of boiling, so he pulled out his 9mm pistol and shoots at his wife. Bullets entered her body and she dropped dead instantly, leaving behind two children under the age of 5 years.

The husband is now being interrogated with charges of murder. His case is being handled by a lawyer.

by SAMAR AL-SAYED

PRINCE HASSAN OFFERS CONDOLENCES TO BAHRAIN'S EMIR

ROYAL HIGHNESS Prince Hassan flew to Bahrain Monday to offer his condolences to the late Emir.

Prince Hassan was received at Manama airport by Sheikh Salman Al Khalifa, members of the royal family and a number of senior officials.

Prince Hassan met with Sheikh Hamad Al Khalifa, the Prime Minister, and other members of the Ruling Council.

Prince Hassan was accompanied by former Minister Abdul Sami Al Majali, Sharif Nasser, Secretary General of The



Arab Thought Forum, Ali Atteeqa and former Minister of Information, Nasser Judeh — Petra.

IMPLEMENTING THE SOCIAL SECURITY PACKAGE

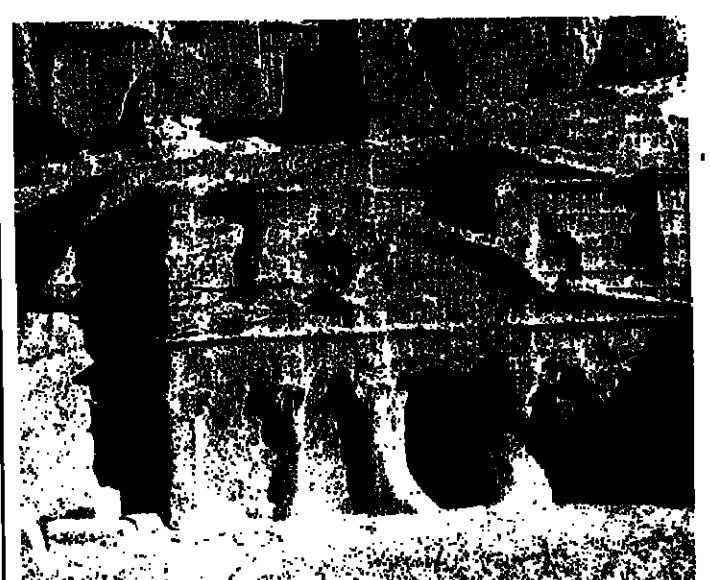
MINISTER OF SOCIAL Development Faysal Al Rifai stressed the necessity of implementing the contents of The Letter of Designation concerning the social security package and anti-poverty and unemployment programs.

The Minister said at a meeting for the Planning Committee that "the Ministry should give special attention for unemployment and poverty alleviation programs" adding that "their mission at the Ministry is to serve the poor and realize social justice".

He emphasized the importance of field work in order to stay informed of the situation of the underprivileged groups and people of special needs.

The Secretary General of the Ministry Farouk Nagawel said the committee reviewed possible amendments to the Juvenile Aids regulations — Petra.

A GULF PRESS DELEGATION IN PETRA



A PRESS DELEGATION from the Gulf States visited the Petra Region Monday for a tour of the various tourist facilities and developmental projects currently existing in the Region.

The delegation, comprising ten senior journalists and writers from different media institutions of the Gulf Cooperation Council, were taken on a tour of the various hotels and

tourist facilities around the Petra area to get a first hand experience of what the City has to offer in terms of investment and touristic potentials.

The delegation are to do comprehensive media coverage of the Petra Region in their respective media organizations in a bid to promote the Region's attractions — Petra.

MAN MURDERS WIFE OVER MONEY

AFTER A LONG QUARREL between the newly-married couple, Sufian, the husband,

murdered his wife because she refused to sell her jewelry for some badly needed money, said a lieutenant at the Public Relations Department who asked to remain anonymous.

"The husband is unemployed and relies on his wife for a living. She worked at a factory in Amman," he said.

According to the officer, the couple were married for three months only when they started having financial problems. The husband asked his brothers for assistance, but they refused.

The quarrel that resulted in the murder took place when he asked Ezdehar (his wife) to sell

her jewelry, but she refused, telling him to go and find a job instead.

Sufian stabbed his wife viciously in her neck and chest. After she had bled to death, he set the house on fire.

"He might have done so in order to mislead the police in case he got arrested," said the lieutenant.

The criminal's brothers who live in an apartment opposite him, broke down the house when they heard the explosion of the gas bottle.

The couple were immediately transferred to Al-Bashir Hospital. Sufian suffered injuries to several parts of his body. He remains hospitalized.

by AN ARAB DAILY REPORTER

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THREE SUSPECTS AT LARGE IN ARMED ROBBERY

POLICE INVESTIGATING AN armed robbery attempt took place in Zarqa Sunday, are seeking three suspects who remain at large. The fourth suspect in the case was apprehended right after the robbery had taken place, involving the sum of JOD 10,000.

A police officer at the Zarqa Police Department who asked to remain unidentified, said that the arrested man is of Egyptian nationality who lived in the city. He is now cooperating with the police in their investigations.

The police officer added that the four robbers stopped a

vehicle used specially to transfer money from the Central Bank to one of the local banks in Jordan, beat the driver and robbed him of a bag full of money before they fled, leaving the driver in a serious condition.

The police were notified immediately about the armed

robbery and chased the suspects until they reached the Tabarbour area on the outskirts of Amman.

"We managed to arrest only one and our primary investigations have led us so far to descriptions of the three remaining suspects."

The officer declined to give

further details about the kind of weapons the suspects used in the failed armed robbery attempt.

"This is the business of the Criminal Investigation Department," he said.

by NOURA WAZANI Crime Reporter

ARAB WATCH

Cohen says fighter sale to UAE is on track

ABU DHABI (AFP) — US Defense Secretary William Cohen expressed confidence Monday that a six billion dollar sale of F-16 fighters to the United Arab Emirates remains on track. Cohen said he discussed the 80 fighter deal with UAE's military chief of staff, Sheikh Mohammad Bin Zayed. "I think we are moving ahead with the proposal," he said. "We hope to continue to make progress on it." US defense officials say discussions are continuing over the electronic warfare software the aircraft will carry. The UAE wants it to be able to identify other US-made warplanes as potential foes, something which the Pentagon has resisted.

Iranian opposition in Iraq is attacked

BAGHDAD (R) — The Iranian opposition Mujahideen Khalig, based in Iraq, said on Monday Iranian agents ambushed one of its vehicles north of Baghdad, but it made no mention of casualties. It said in a statement Iranian "terrorists" had fired guns and tossed grenades at the vehicle near Khalis, 60 kilometers north of Baghdad, in an attempt to kill Mujahideen passengers. "The terrorists... had to flee when Mujahideen returned fire," it said, adding the attackers left behind two guns, several magazines and a number of grenades. The Mujahideen Khalig uses Iraq as a springboard for attacks into Iran and has several bases equipped with tanks, heavy guns and helicopter gunships close to the Iranian border. Mujahideen bases have been the target of air and rocket attacks by Iran. Their office in Baghdad, ringed by a concrete wall, has survived several mortar and bomb attacks.

Syria's GDP rises by 10.7 percent

DAMASCUS (AFP) — Syria's gross domestic product, its exports and its imports all rose in 1998, the government reported in a statement issued Monday. The statement, published to mark the 36th anniversary of the coming to power of the ruling Baath party, said GDP rose to \$17.5 billion in 1998, up 10.7 percent over the previous. Exports rose by 3.7 percent, to \$5.5 billion, while imports increased by 3.2 percent, to reach \$5.6 billion.

Egypt struggles to allay fears in money market crisis

CAIRO (AP) — The government temporarily closed four major foreign exchange firms beginning Monday, accusing them of causing a surge in the US dollar against the Egyptian pound. Also Monday, Mahmoud Al Arabi, head of the General Federation of the Chamber of Commerce, said the Central Bank has agreed to release \$2 billion from its \$21 billion reserve to boost the sagging Egyptian currency. Akbar Al Youm, a government-owned weekly, put the figure at \$1 billion. The Central Bank has not commented on the reported move to prop up the local currency as a means to keep import costs - and inflation - from going up. On Thursday, however, Central Bank governor Ismael Hassan blamed the troubles on importing too many unnecessary luxury goods.

Indian PM mourns death of Bahrain's 'people's monarch'

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee Monday paid tribute to the late Emir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Ben Salman Al Khalifa, saying he had captured the hearts of his countrymen. "His Highness... was rightly known as the 'Amir of the people' on account of the love and affection he felt for his people and the deep sense of commitment he had for their welfare and prosperity," he said in a condolence letter released by the foreign ministry here Monday. "We in India greatly appreciated his abiding desire to strengthen ties with this country," Vajpayee said, adding: "It was due in large measure to His Highness's regard for India that thousands of Indians found such a congenial home in Bahrain." Sheikh Issa died on Saturday of a sudden heart attack.

GULF WOMEN TAKE VEILED STEPS TOWARDS EMANCIPATION

DOHA (AFP) — Women in the conservative Gulf Arab monarchies have made some progress towards emancipation, such as voting for the first time in Qatar on Monday, International Women's Day, but still have a long way to go.

From Saudi Arabia to Kuwait and the other coastal emirates, women have the region's oil wealth to thank for granting them an education.

Women in the Saudi kingdom are not allowed to drive, nor to venture out without a veil. But whereas schooling for girls was forbidden up until the 1950s, girls now make up more than 50 percent in schools and universities.

In the workplace, however, women account for only 5.5 percent.

Most of those with a job are restricted to employment as teachers or as nurses, because of strict segregation of the sexes in Saudi Arabia.

In Qatar, women could not only vote but also run as candidates in Qatar's first vote for a municipal council. Six, mostly university academics, contested the polls.



Qatari women cast their vote during local elections on Monday.

But weighed down by tradition, few women in Qatar dare to go behind the wheel of a car.

The highest government post held by Gulf women is undersecretary, such as in the United Arab Emirates where a woman has for the first time been appointed to the post in the

labor and social affairs ministry. Women make up 11.4 percent of the workforce among UAE nationals.

The percentage is higher in Bahrain, where they have a relatively strong education.

In Kuwait, several women hold the posts of undersecretary or ambassador, but women do not have the vote either.

the state has the only elected parliament on the Arab side of the Gulf.

Three women serve as secretaries in Oman and others sit on an appointed consultative council.

QATAR BALLOT BLOWS BREEZE OF DEMOCRACY THROUGH STRICT GULF MONARCHIES

DOHA (AFP) — Qatar held landmark elections on Monday blowing a rare wind of democracy through the conservative Gulf region as women not only voted but also stood as candidates.

The first real elections - to a single municipal council - in the history of the gas-rich sheikhdom were billed by officials as a first step towards establishing an elected parliament.

"We started with elections to the chamber of commerce and industry," Prime Minister Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani told reporters, referring to a restricted vote last year.

"Today we are electing a municipal council and soon, after drawing up a permanent constitution, we will hold legislative elections," said Sheikh Abdullah, who is also interior minister.

Head of state Sheikh Hamad Ben Khalifa Al Thani, who overthrew his father in 1995, launched moves towards democracy in July with a law to set up the council.

It has no real power - officially, the municipal body will supervise implementation of laws and resolutions concerning the ministry of municipal and agricultural affairs.



AFP Photo

A Qatari boy plays with candidate's leaflets yesterday in Doha during local elections.

The council's recommendations can only be submitted to the cabinet with the approval of the ministry itself.

The Emir, Sheikh Hamad, announced on Nov. 16 a decision to appoint a committee of experts to draw up a permanent constitution which would provide for a directly-elected parliament.

Held on International Women's Day, the elections saw six women candidates, although few Qatari women drive or uncover their face in public.

The six, most university academics, are among 227 candidates running for the 29 seats to the council, which will have a four-year mandate.

With 18 as the minimum voting age, the electorate numbers 12,327 men and 9,665 women out of a total population of 522,000, of whom only an estimated 100,000 are Qatari nationals.

Despite the progress, tradition remained to the fore and segregation was strictly enforced Monday. Men and women had separate voting booths as well as separate entrances to polling stations.

Most women candidates based their election platform on issues such as the environment, the family, and health, but few held out much hope of being elected.

"Just taking part is a victory," said candidate Muzah Al Mulla.

Parliamentary delegates invited to supervise the polls were more upbeat. "Any democratic activity in a Gulf country means wider participation," said Ahmad Saadun, speaker of Kuwait's parliament.

Oman is the only other Gulf Arab state to have given women the vote or the right to run as candidates, although on a strictly limited basis in a consultative council set up in October.

Kuwait alone among Gulf Arab states has an elected parliament and a municipal council, but women are not allowed to vote or to run for office.

Parliamentary delegates from a dozen Arab and other countries are supervising the Qatar elections. They are also holding a press conference at the close of voting around 11 p.m. (1700 GMT).

Members of Qatar's forces and police are also supervising the elections. The electoral roll is open for office.

COHEN PROPOSES TO MONITOR IRANIAN, IRAQI MISSILE TESTS

ABU DHABI (DPA) — US Secretary William Cohen has proposed to monitor missile tests by Iran and Iraq.

Cohen, who arrived in Abu Dhabi from Oman, said the US could place in the Gulf Emirates, receivers could get information on tests from Iran and Iraq.

US defense secretary Cohen met Monday with the Emir of the Emirates Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan to discuss the proposal.

Cohen met Monday in Muscat with Omani leader Sultan Qabus to discuss military cooperation in the region, including a regional anti-missile defense system.

On Saturday, Cohen announced in Bahrain that the US has just taken the final step

necessary to approve a Bahraini request to purchase Advanced Medium Range Air to Air Missiles (AMRAAM).

In Saudi Arabia, the second leg of his tour, sources said Riyadh had also purchased the American missiles.

The AMRAAM missiles, which cost \$386,000 each, have an active radar that guides them to their targets.

The United Arab Emirates was the first Arab country to get approval to buy the missiles while Israel was the first country in the Middle East to purchase them.

Cohen's nine-day tour will also take him to Kuwait, Qatar, Egypt, Jordan and Israel.

The US conducts frequent attacks on Iraq's air defenses in the no-fly zones in the south and north of Iraq.

The no-fly zones were set up after the 1991 Gulf War to protect Kurdish and Shiite rebels from the government in Baghdad.



UAE President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, right, receives Cohen in Abu Dhabi, on Monday.

VEDRIN: GULF REACTION TO FRENCH INITIATIVE ON IRAQ IS POSITIVE

KUWAIT (AP) — The Gulf states response to a French initiative on Iraq's disarmament has been "very encouraging," French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrin said Sunday.

Vedrin stopped in Kuwait for a few hours at the end of a tour of the Gulf region that took in the United Arab Emirates and Qatar.

"In every stop... I noticed big interest and a will to talk to France about these ideas," the minister told reporters after he met with his Kuwaiti counterpart, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Vedrin said the proposal, which was offered to the UN Security Council in January, was still not at the stage of a "complete plan."

The proposal calls for long-term monitoring of

Iraq's weapons sites in order to ensure that Baghdad does not resume production of biological, nuclear and chemical weapons or long-range missiles.

It also calls for removing the curbs on oil exports that have been imposed on Iraq since its invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

The United States has not rejected the proposal, which Paris sees as less intrusive and aggressive than the UN weapons searches that Iraq halted last year. The Baghdad move led to punishing airstrikes by the US and Britain in December.

Vedrin told reporters that Sheikh Sabah told him that "Kuwait will support any move that would enhance the regional security and the security of

Kuwait."

More than eight years after the 1991 Gulf War that liberated Kuwait from a seven-month Iraqi occupation, this small state still fears Iraqi aggression.

Kuwait signed 10-year defense agreements with its western allies, the US, Britain, France and Russia, after the war.

France, along with Russia and China, support the lifting of sanctions. Iraq has given the countries preferential treatment in trade under the UN-approved oil-for-food program, and they are favored to win contracts to develop Iraq's oil fields after the sanctions are lifted.

KUWAIT SEES 'MISUNDERSTANDING' WITH FRANCE OVER IRAQ

DUBAI (AFP) — Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah said Monday that Kuwait was not in dispute with France over its proposals for a peaceful outcome to the Iraq crisis, but it was not fully convinced.

"There is no difference with France over the essence of the Iraqi question, but there could be a misunderstanding," Sheikh Sabah said in an interview with the London-based Arab newspaper Al Hayat.

Sheikh Sabah said talks with his French counterpart Hubert Vedrine on Sunday aimed "to establish a clear understanding of the French proposal to end the crisis with Iraq and any

other French ideas."

"I understood from the French very clearly that all these matters, whether the lifting of sanctions on Iraq or any other proposal, were related to Iraq's implementation of UN Security Council resolutions," he said.

"That is why we do not have doubts about the French policy," said Sheikh Sabah, whose country was occupied by Iraq in 1990 and has since taken a tough stance against Baghdad, in line with the United States.

Vedrine, ending a three-nation Gulf tour in Kuwait, said he heard

"encouraging responses" for French efforts to end the Iraq crisis through a political initiative.

Sheikh Sabah told me Kuwait would support any move which guarantees regional security," Vedrine told reporters.

"I reminded my counterpart that our ideas on arms control and financial control" of Iraq "center on this aim - regional security. Lifting the sanctions is only a consequence."

Vedrine was critical throughout his trip of the almost daily US and British airstrikes on Iraq.

But US Defense Secretary William Cohen, on a separate Gulf tour to

defend the strikes, called for a hard-line and made it clear that Washington did not agree with Paris.

"We happen to disagree with that proposal," Cohen said in Riyadh on Sunday.

"We think that the best way to deal with Iraq is for Iraq to comply with the [UN] resolutions, and we think the air strikes are appropriate considering the threats to our forces."

The French initiative calls for a lifting of the UN oil embargo but keeping the revenues of Iraq under supervision, at the same time as long-term monitoring of Iraqi weapons programs.

IRAQ: US IN NEED OF NEW LINE AFTER 'FAILURE' OF AIR STRIKES

BAGHDAD (AFP) — The United States needs to adopt a new policy toward Baghdad after the "failure" of its air strikes, an official Iraqi newspaper said Monday.

Al Jumhuriya called on the US administration "to halt its hostile policies toward Iraq, especially the air raids which have ended up in failure over the past few years."

Washington "must understand that such actions do not frighten the Iraqi people, which in the past has patiently endured other more difficult tests," it said.

The daily said the United States would have "to adopt a new line of conduct toward Iraq by gradually renouncing its hostile policies which have proved to be useless."

Washington has "no clear vision" of how to deal with Baghdad, it said.

Another official daily, Al Qadisiya, slammed US Defense Secretary William Cohen's current Gulf tour, which it said was aimed at "keeping up the aggression against Iraq."

In Saudi Arabia on Saturday, the defense secretary met King Fahd, "traitor of the [Muslim] holy places," to discuss the military aspect of the US strategy of air strikes combined with sanctions, it said.

The United States is a strong advocate of keeping in place a UN embargo imposed on Iraq for its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

US PLANES BOMB SITES IN NORTH AND SOUTH IRAQ, ONE WOUNDED



(FILES) A file picture dated 28 February 1999 shows an F/A 18 "Hornet" returning to the flight deck following a mission in support of Operation Southern Watch over southern Iraq.

IRAQ SAYS US, BRITAIN BLOCK TELEPHONE DEALS

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq accused the United States and Britain on Monday of blocking contracts to upgrade its transport and telecommunications systems under an "oil-for-food" deal with the United Nations. Iraq's telecommunications were badly damaged by US and allied air strikes during the 1991 Gulf War. The system has been partially repaired but remains out of date and lacks spare parts.

"Our transport and telecommunications sector has lacked financial allocations since the memorandum of understanding came into effect," the Iraqi News Agency quoted Communications and Transport Minister Ahmad Murtada Ahmad Khalil as saying, in a reference to a memorandum signed with the United Nations.

He said a UN technical team that visited Iraq last year to assess the country's needs "proposed an amount of 2 percent of the requirements of this sector."

"The United Nations, however, did not endorse these little allocations due to persistence of the US and British representatives at [sanctions] committee 661," he said.

Iraq is under stringent economic sanctions imposed for Baghdad's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Under the rules of the UN pact all food, oil, and other contracts must be passed to a special committee at the world body's headquarters for approval before shipments can be made.

"Blocking these allocations means America and Britain are aiming at harming Iraqi people," Khalil said.

Khalil told an Iraqi newspaper earlier this month that a UN sanctions committee had barred unidentified French companies from upgrading Iraq's war-damaged and out-of-date telephone system.

ARAFAT TO MEDIATE BETWEEN SADDAM HUSSEIN AND KURDISH GROUP

RAMALLAH (AFP) — Palestinian President Yasser Arafat will attempt to mediate between Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and a leader of one of two Kurdish groups which control northern Iraq, a Palestinian official said on Monday.

The official said that Arafat would probably meet Massud Barzani, the leader of the Kurdish Democratic Party

(KDP), in the next two weeks in an international capital although the precise date and venue of the talks have yet to be decided.

"The Palestinian Authority is making these efforts... to try to maintain the unity of Iraq and its territorial integrity," the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told AFP.

An envoy sent by Barzani is known recently to have met

Palestinian Labor Minister Azzam Al Ahmad who, as a former Palestinian Ambassador to Baghdad, enjoys close ties with the Iraqi leadership.

Barzani's KDP and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) led by Jalal Talabani have controlled most of northern Iraq since the 1991 Gulf War, but their partnership collapsed in 1994 due to rifts over power-sharing and revenue.

BAGHDAD (AFP) — One person was injured in US-led air raids on northern and southern Iraq on Monday and anti-aircraft gunners opened fire at the warplanes, an Iraqi military spokesman said.

The US military said its planes taking off from Turkey bombed radar sites in the northern "no-fly" zone that posed a threat to the aircraft.

"The black crows fired missiles at certain civilian targets and anti-aircraft defence sites, wounding a citizen," the Iraqi spokesman said, quoted by the official news agency INA.

He said the "heroic" anti-aircraft gunners "fired at the enemy planes and forced them to turn back to Turkey," after overflying the northern regions of Arbil, Dahuk and Ninawa.

In the south, Iraqi gunners also challenged US-led planes which entered Iraq's airspace from Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

The latest raids took place as US Defence Secretary William Cohen continues his tour of the Gulf to defend the almost daily strikes since December by US and British warplanes, INA noted.

The US military said F-15 Strike Eagles, acting in self defence, "dropped GBU-28 laser-guided bombs on several Iraqi anti-aircraft artillery sites around Saddam Lake."

The action came after the aircraft "detected several anti-aircraft radars posing a threat to coalition forces," said the statement issued from Incirlik air base in southeast Turkey.

"There is no reported injury or damage to coalition forces, and damage to Iraqi forces is currently under assessment," the statement added.

There have been almost daily clashes between Iraqi air defenses and allied aircraft in the no-fly zones since the five-day bombing campaign by the United States and Britain in December.

Baghdad does not recognize the exclusion zones which were imposed after the 1991 Gulf War to protect Iraq's Kurdish and Shiite minorities.

Ankara has rejected Baghdad's calls to stop allowing US and British planes to use Incirlik air base for surveillance flights.



An unidentified Iraqi woman models a summer dress during a fashion show in the Sheraton hotel in Baghdad on Monday. Iraqi women depend on homemade clothes because of the eight-year long U.N. trade sanctions on Iraq.

US TOP MIDDLE EASTENLY OFFICIAL TO VISIT DAMASCUS SOON

DAMASCUS (AFP) — US Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk will come to Damascus within the next few days as part of a Middle Eastern tour, the official Syrian news agency SANA said Monday. The agency said it got the information from the Paris-based Radio Orient, which is owned by former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and broadcasts to Lebanon.

The US embassy in Damascus confirmed that Indyk will travel to the region but did not give the dates for his visit.

Indyk is expected to discuss the resumption of Israel's peace talks with Syria and Lebanon and Syrian-US relations, the agency said. His visit comes amid heightened public debate in Israel over whether the country should withdraw its forces from the zone it occupies in south Lebanon. Lebanese Prime Minister Salim Hoss said Saturday that the 1949 armistice with Israel would be revived if the Jewish state pulled out.

However, Syria is the main power broker in Lebanon and opposes any Lebanese-Israeli accord, unless Israel also gives back the Golan Heights, captured from Damascus in the 1967 Middle East war. Israeli-Syrian peace talks were broken off in February 1996, several months ahead of Israel's general elections. New Israeli elections are scheduled for May.

Indyk will also travel to Lebanon, Jordan, Morocco and Turkey, where he will tell leaders that US President Bill Clinton is convinced "that an Israeli-Syrian accord is useful for the peace process in the region and for ties between Damascus and Washington," SANA said.

BAHRAIN'S NEW EMIR: A FOREIGN POLICY HARDLINER, MORE MODERATE INTERNALLY

MANAMA (AFP) — Bahrain's new emir is considered to favor a hardline foreign policy, particularly in a land dispute with Qatar, but may take a more moderate approach to domestic issues, diplomats said Monday.

Sheik Hamad Bin Issa Al Khalifa's accession to power Saturday following the sudden death of his father from a heart attack was the first major change of power since Bahrain won independence from Britain in 1971.

The takeover is likely to lead to significant shifts in this Gulf island state's policies, the most marked of which, diplomats said, will be the emir's hands-on approach.

"His father, Sheik Issa, left most day-to-day decisions to his brother," Prime Minister Sheik Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, one diplomat said.

"But Sheik Hamad has always been keen to make his mark on government business and that will intensify now that he holds the number one spot in a system of absolute monarchy."

The relationship between the new ruler and the prime minister has in the past been tense, with the premier perceived to have a much tougher approach on most issues than his nephew.

"He [Sheik Hamad] is seen as more hardline and less moderate than his father, but more moderate than the prime minister," one Western diplomat said.

Although the emir theoretically has the power to appoint and dismiss the prime minister, diplomats said, they did not expect any change in the near future.

Nor did they expect immediate changes in major government posts, most of which are held by members of the ruling family. The emir's eldest son, Sheik Salman, was expected to be named as the new crown prince.

The new ruler's most pressing domestic challenge will be the political unrest which erupted in the archipelago in December 1994.

Led mainly by Shiite Muslims, the opposition has agitated for a restoration of parliament, which was dissolved by the old emir in 1975.

"There were reports that Sheik Hamad approached the main opposition group in London, the Bahraini Freedom Movement [BFM], a few years ago and offered some kind of deal," one diplomat said.

"But the negotiations were undermined when the government put eight members of the BFM on trial in absentia," he said.

The initiative to hold the trial may have come from the prime minister, but it would have been backed by his brother on internal security matters, Sheik Hamad's moderation on the unrest will only go so far.

His military background will strongly influence policy, and there are reports he has threatened on at least one occasion to send in the army to quell unruly Shiite villages.

But now that he is emir, the diplomats said, he may feel it necessary to reduce these threats and play a more conciliatory role, closer to his father's position. In the short term, he is likely to put

down unrest and a large security presence on the streets that has been noted already by diplomats and journalists.

Statements from the opposition in London have indicated they are willing to negotiate an end to the violence that has claimed at least 38 lives. And graffiti on some village walls is urging the new emir to reopen talks.

In foreign policy, there is likely to be a tougher line on the dispute over the Hawar islands, occupied by Bahrain but claimed by neighboring Qatar.

The case is before the World Court in The Hague, but Bahrain has made it clear it will only accept a decision in its favor.

Sheik Hamad has been known to favor military intervention if needed, but that position may also be moderated now that he is emir.

Ties with Iran will continue to thaw, diplomats said.

The relationship is now, on the ambassadorial level for the first time since 1996, and Manama's accusations that Tehran is funding Bahrain's Hizbollah group have more or less ceased.

Bahrain's relationship with mighty neighbor Saudi Arabia will also remain warm; Manama relies heavily on Riyadh for economic help and trade, and its close ties with the kingdom have afforded it a more prominent regional role.

Ties with the West will also be maintained, especially with the United States whose Fifth Fleet is based in Bahrain.

ARAB LEAGUE: QADHAFI GETS GUARANTEES ON LOCKERBIE



A female bodyguard walks in front of her leader, Libyan President Muammar Qadhafi during his tour at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo on Sunday.

"Libya wanted guarantees to three important points, which are the lifting of the [UN] sanctions, instead of suspending them, as soon as the

Libyan suspects are handed over; that the suspects are not handed over to Britain before their trial and sentence; and that the trial does

not expand to other suspects," Egypt's official Middle East News Agency quoted Zakaria as saying.

Zakaria said he hoped Libya had got "enough guarantees on these three main points."

Referring to the countries that had mediated between the United Nations and Libya, Zakaria said: "Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Egypt had a positive effect in pushing the Lockerbie case along the road of a fair solution." The UN Security Council has maintained a limited embargo on Libya since 1992 in a bid to force it to hand over the wanted men. Under a US-British plan, the suspects will be tried according to Scottish law in The Netherlands.

Egypt has been pressing Libya to settle the matter. Qadhafi said last week that a deal was close.

ARAFAT IN CAIRO FOR TALKS WITH MUBARAK

CAIRO (AFP) — Palestinian President Yasser Arafat arrived here on Monday for talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on how to break the deadlock with Israel over completing the interim period of the peace process.

The president of the Palestinian National Authority arrived at Cairo international airport on a flight from Gaza.

A Palestinian official said the talks form part of a round of intensive discussions Arafat is due to hold with Arab leaders over the remaining period of less than two months before the five-year interim period of the Oslo peace process between Israel and the Palestinians ends on May 4.

FISTFIGHTS ERUPT BETWEEN PALESTINIANS AND JEWISH SETTLERS

BETHLEHEM (AFP) — Fistfights broke out in the south of the West Bank on Monday as Palestinian villagers clashed with Jewish settlers over a trench being dug on Arab land, witnesses said.

The clashes broke out when bulldozers hired by residents of the Efrat settlement started digging a ditch for water pipes on land near the Palestinian village of Jurat Al Shamaa south of Bethlehem, according to Ibrahim Fawaghira, the local mayor.

Israeli troops quickly separated the two sides and detained one Palestinian landowner, Fawaghira said.

There were no reports of any serious injuries.



Palestinian pilgrims board the first Palestinian Airlines flight to Saudi Arabia for the annual hajj to Mecca, yesterday, at Gaza International Airport.

HE'S DONE IT AGAIN

YELTSIN WRONG-FOOTS everyone. This is getting crazy. On Feb. 25, Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov became a member of a club he didn't necessarily want to join. That was the day President Boris Yeltsin said publicly that the prime minister would serve straight through until the presidential elections in the summer of the year 2000. The other members of Yeltsin's elite "2000 or Bust" club include former economic czars Anatoly Chubais and Boris Nemtsov, as well as former prime minister Sergei Kiriyenko, all sacked by the president. The prime minister promptly flew off to Sochi, on the Black Sea, for a sudden vacation. That prompted more gossip: Sochi in August is routine for Russian leaders. But late February? Next, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Yakushkin said Yeltsin had "firmly persuaded" Primakov to take a break.

A day later, Kremlin chief of staff Nikolai Bordyuzha said there would be an investigation into alleged "corruption" among Primakov's ministers. By now, the press was full of speculation that Primakov was about to be sacked. Then reality set in: two days after he met with the president, and indeed had what one NEWSWEEK source says was a "tough" session, Yeltsin was whisked back into the hospital, his bleeding ulcer again requiring urgent treatment. Could Yeltsin, whose health since his re-election in the summer of 1996 has not allowed him to work for more than a few weeks at a time, be so irrational as to fire Primakov from his hospital bed? In the midst of Russia's still deepening economic crisis? Without an obvious, politically acceptable successor at hand? Probably not; but it's still out of the question. Yeltsin, even in his failing, final years, still loves wrong-footing the received political wisdom in Moscow.

The Kremlin's stated intention to investigate alleged corruption in Primakov's government, widely believed to focus on Deputy Prime Ministers Yuri Maslyukov and Gennady Kulik, came after Primakov's team had moved against businesses linked to Boris Berezovsky, the infamous oligarch with tight connections to Yeltsin's family.

Primakov is reliably reported to loathe Berezovsky, and a move to link him with corruption was politically popular. Then came Bordyuzha's announcement that the Security Council he heads would start an investigation into Primakov's team. This was widely seen as Berezovsky's inevitable counterattack. That Primakov might be in trouble suddenly seemed credible; his meeting with Yeltsin on Feb. 25 had been contentious. And at least part of the conflict between the prime minister and the president, NEWSWEEK has learned, focused precisely on the political futures of Maslyukov, a communist who leads Russia's critical and floundering negotiations with the International Monetary Fund, and Kulik, who presides over agricultural policy. Yeltsin had been troubled by the fact that the IMF has repeatedly and publicly expressed its dissatisfaction with Russia's 1999 budget, only to have Maslyukov insist that the fund's "pressure" was "indecent." A cool, smart head in Yeltsin's circle, most likely Oleg Syushev, an aide widely respected by the IMF, had evidently told the president that a deal with the IMF was desperately needed. Yeltsin, one informed source says, told Primakov to get rid of Maslyukov. Primakov resisted, saying that the fragile peace he maintains with the communist-dominated legislature would be destroyed if he did. Primakov apparently offered up Kulik instead, but Yeltsin still wasn't satisfied. In the days since, Kremlin aides have let it be known that they don't view Primakov as indispensable, and have floated the name of communist Duma speaker Gennady Seleznyov as a possible successor. Indeed, just as the Russian papers were preparing Primakov's obituary, Yeltsin did indeed fire somebody. Only it wasn't Primakov. It was Berezovsky, who for the past year has served as executive secretary for the Commonwealth of Independent States. That's a nonjob in an organization with no clout, and formally, it isn't even in Yeltsin's purview. No matter. In the present, fevered political atmosphere in Moscow, Yeltsin had wrong-footed everyone again. Were there more dismissals to come? Would Primakov return to Moscow secure in his job? Only the bedridden, 68-year-old president with the bleeding ulcer knew. But this long-running farce is the last thing a poor, floundering, deeply troubled nation needs.

By BILL POWELL
With OWEN MATTHEWS and YANA DLUGY
in Moscow

BOSNIAN SERBS REJECT SACKING OF THEIR PRESIDENT AND BRCKO DECISION

BANJA LUKA (AFP) — The Bosnian Serb parliament was on a collision course with the international community Monday after rejecting both the dismissal of Bosnian Serb President Nikola Poplasen and a ruling making the disputed town of Brcko neutral.

Hardline nationalist Poplasen was dismissed Friday by the International High Representative in Bosnia, Carlos Westendorp, for allegedly abusing his office by seeking to dump the moderate caretaker prime minister, Milorad Dodik. The vote late Sunday for the resolution rejecting the dismissal of Poplasen was 57 to 15, while the six members of Dodik's Independent Social Democratic Party (SNSD) abstained.

The parliament of the Bosnian Serb entity or Republika Srpska (RS) also rejected by 62 to 16 an international arbitration board's

decision making Brcko, claimed by both the Republika Srpska and the Moslem-Croat federation in Bosnia, a neutral district.

Westendorp's spokeswoman Alexandra Stiglmeier on Monday called for commonsense to prevail. "We hope that... a solution to this situation will be found together with the international community."

"The High Representative hopes that Poplasen will step down of his own free will, and the people will realize that he has been working against the interests of the RS," Stiglmeier said.

The decision on Brcko, also taken Friday, prompted Dodik to resign in protest, but he said after the parliamentary session that he was reconsidering this decision.

Westendorp, tasked by the international community with implementing the Dayton peace

accords ending the ethnic war in Bosnia, is empowered to sack leaders, elected or appointed, who threaten the accords.

But the Bosnian Serb parliament said the decision to dismiss Poplasen went against the constitution of the Republika Srpska and electoral rules approved by the international community.

The pro-government press accused the international community of dictatorial behaviour. The events in Republika Srpska "demonstrate well what happens when foreign soldiers and international high representatives with special powers are foisted upon you," said the daily Vecernje Novosti. The parliament called upon the committee which is following up the Dayton accords and the six-power international Contact Group on the former Yugoslavia to meet urgently and

revise the decision on Brcko.

In the meantime, the parliament said, it would withdraw its representatives from the Bosnian Hercegovina parliament, and would no longer recognize the decisions of federal institutions taken without Serb participation. The moderate Serb member of Bosnia's collective presidency, Zivko Radisic, and the 11 Bosnian Serb deputies in Bosnia's collective parliament "suspended" their participation Sunday.

Borko Reljic, the hardline mayor of Brcko, told the parliament the RS was "not in two minds" about this decision, and even announced the status of Brcko, which makes it a neutral district co-run by Serbs, Muslims and Croats, lay down that freedom of movement is guaranteed so that the integrity of the RS is not jeopardized.

SOLANA REASONABLY OPTIMISTIC ON KOSOVO DEAL

PARIS (AFP) — NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana emerged from talks with President Jacques Chirac Monday expressing cautious optimism on a Kosovo peace deal between rival Serbs and Kosovar Albanians.

"We hope the Serbs will finally accept the Rambouillet accords," he said, referring to 17 days of talks last month in which the two sides agreed in principle on a political framework for substantial autonomy for Kosovo, while leaving the province as part of Serbia, Yugoslavia's dominant republic.

Belgrade however staunchly opposes the military chapter of the proposed peace deal; the deployment on its territory of NATO troops to ensure peace in Kosovo, where 90 percent of the population is ethnic Albanian. "I hope intelligence will prevail on both sides," Solana told reporters. "I do not feel pessimistic."

Chirac's spokeswoman said that in talks with the president, Solana had been "reasonably optimistic" about clinching a deal when the two warring parties return to Paris on March 15 to resume the talks.

Earlier, Solana had again warned Belgrade that a refusal to endorse the military propos-

als contained in the peace deal could unleash retaliation. "If there is a clear responsibility for the lack of a signature (on a peace accord)... particularly if there is a clear responsibility on the Serb side... the 16 NATO members (are) ready to take military measures," Solana warned on radio RTL. His comments came as commanders of the Kosovo Liberation Army met to decide whether or not to sign up to the peace proposal. He added that the alliance would prefer a mandate from the United Nations for possible armed intervention in Kosovo but would go ahead without one if necessary.

"I believe NATO must act within the framework of the United Nations but there are occasions where... we will act by consensus (among NATO members) if there is an obstacle in the Security Council," he told France's Institute for Higher Defence Studies.

HOLBROOKE HOLDS TALKS WITH MILOSEVIC

BELGRADE (AFP) — US envoy Richard Holbrooke will visit Belgrade on Tuesday for talks with Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic on Kosovo, visiting German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer told a press conference here Monday. Fischer, speaking after a meeting with Milosevic, said the Yugoslav leader had told them that Holbrooke would be in Belgrade Tuesday. "I heard that Holbrooke will be coming tomorrow... We heard it from President Milosevic that Holbrooke is coming tomorrow."

Fischer, who was accompanied by European Commissioner Hans van den Broek, said of the draft Kosovo peace plan which is still awaiting approval both by the Serbs and the ethnic Albanians in the disputed province: "There will be no reopening of the political agreement, no renegotiation of the results of Rambouillet."

He added: "We have to talk about the implementation and the signature. Believe that Milosevic and Belgrade authorities are very well aware about NATO positions and decisions."

FOUR DEAD, DOZENS HURT AS EXPLOSIONS ROCK AMBON CITY



Indonesian high school students fight with allies in Tanah Ambon, central Jakarta. The clash broke out as a bus was carrying student protesters to a demonstration behind the Defense Ministry in support of International Women's Day.

Jakarta (DPA) — At least four people were killed and dozens injured in a series of pre-dawn explosions and physical assaults by mobs Monday in the riot-torn Indonesian city of Ambon, where recent clashes between Muslims and Christians have left more than 200 people dead. Residents of the capital of Maluku province, 2,300 kilometers northeast of Jakarta, said three home-made bombs rocked Air Selabar on the outskirts of western Ambon between 3 a.m. and 9 a.m. Eight buildings were burned following the explosions, and "two people were killed and six others were injured," a resident said. Many shops remained closed and fewer vehicles were on the streets Monday. Two of the victims, both Muslims, were killed Monday afternoon when a truck and a minivan were attacked by a group of people at Paso village. "The two were hacked to death by the mobs," an eye-witness at the Al-Fatih Mosque told Deutsche Presse-Agentur. The witness said seven people were badly wounded while 19 others sustained minor injuries. In an attack, the latest in a series of clashes between Muslims and Christians in Ambon, many people were wounded, the official agency reported.

CHECHENYA WARNS RUSSIA NOT TO RETALIATE OVER LATEST KIDNAPPING

CHENYI (AP) — Chechen warlords warned Monday that they were mobilizing to meet any "provocation" from Russia, which moved to seal Chechnya's borders following last week's kidnapping of a top official. With tension running high in the region, Russian government officials flew home to Moscow after being evacuated from the breakaway region, which has been awash in crime and lawlessness since the end of its 1994-96 war with Russia.

The Shura, an Islamic council of Chechen warlords that is not recognized by the region's government, held an extraordinary meeting to discuss the situation.

"We are ready for any provocation on the part of Russia and the Shura is preparing to go out for total military mobilization," spokesman Yusup Yerayev said. "Reservists have already been called up and 2,000 rifles were handed to them. They have blocked the borders."

Russia also said it was blocking Chechnya's borders, and the ITAR-Tass news agency said border troops were strictly checking the papers of people who were crossing into adjoining Russian regions, many for family celebrations to mark International Women's Day, a major holiday in Russia.

Chechen President Aslan Maskhadov promised to quickly find the Russian official who was abducted last week, but warned Russia against taking any military action in retaliation for the kidnapping.

Maskhadov said his government would need only three days to free Gennady Shpigun, a major general in Russia's Interior Ministry forces who was dragged off an airplane just before it was to take off from Grozny, the Chechen capital, on Friday.

"Any conversation in the form of ultimatums, any attempt to frighten us with

planes and guns is a lame delusion of near-sighted politics," Maskhadov said, according to the Interfax news agency.

Russian Interior Minister Sergei Stepashin said the incident would not be tolerated, calling it "the last straw" for the Russian government.

Shpigun was the most prominent Russian official to be kidnapped in Chechnya since last May, when President Boris Yeltsin's envoy Valentin Vlasov was abducted, and held for six months.

The latest kidnapping was another blow for Maskhadov, who has been unable to control the rebel warlords in the breakaway republic.

One prominent Chechen said Monday that any Russian military action could touch off another long and damaging conflict like the 1994-96 war, in which Chechnya gained de-facto independence and humiliated Russia's army.

CHINA PM ORDERS CRACKDOWN ON MUSLIM SEPARATISTS

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji urged parliament delegates Monday to crack down on separatist activities there. "We must resolutely oppose ethnic splittist activities in any form," Zhu told the Xinjiang delegates to the National People's Congress (NPC).

People of various ethnic groups in Xinjiang should unite and make new contributions to maintaining social stability and the lasting tranquility of China," he added, according to a Xinhua report. Northeast Xinjiang, with a population of some 17 million, is gripped by tension between the region's Uighur Muslim majority and Han Chinese settlers, who make up 38 percent of the population, according to official figures.

MODERN COMMONWEALTH CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

LONDON (AP) — The Commonwealth was marking its 50th anniversary Monday, with an open-air pop and dance concert in London in front of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II.

Joan Armatrading tops the bill at the concert outside Westminster Abbey to highlight the music theme of this year's Commonwealth Day.

Afterwards the Queen and her husband Prince Philip, British Prime Minister Tony Blair and special guests including the King and Queen of Swaziland, were to attend a commemorative service in the Abbey. The modern Commonwealth was formed 50 years ago with what is known as the London declaration. It dropped the phrase "common allegiance with the crown" as a requirement for membership, paving the way for newly inde-

pendent nations such as India to join.

The 54-nation body covers an estimated 1.7 billion people, or a quarter of the world's population. India is the biggest member with a population of some 900 million, the smallest is Nauru in the Pacific Ocean with 8,000 residents.

South Africa was re-admitted to the Commonwealth in 1994, 33 years after it was kicked out because of its apartheid regime.

Nigeria's membership was suspended in 1995 after the execution of minority rights activist Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight others.

However Commonwealth Secretary General Eneke Anyaoku, who is Nigerian, has indicated the suspension may be lifted once Nigeria returns to civilian rule on May 29.

As for Ireland, it is also pressing quietly for a return to the fold

some 50 years after leaving the organization when it declared itself a republic.

The Queen's message to the Commonwealth, read at the Westminster Abbey service by Chief Anyaoku, was also set to focus on the theme of music crossing linguistic and national barriers. "Because it has become such an important part of cultural lives, it is a universal means of communicating with each other," the message reads.

"The variety of music illustrates our diversity; its common tones and harmonies bring us together. Just like the Commonwealth."

A spokeswoman for the Royal Commonwealth Society said the stars appearing at the concert were giving their services for nothing "to promote a positive image of the Commonwealth."

US ENVOY MEETS NIGERIAN PRESIDENT-ELECT, OPPONENT

LACOS (AP) — Jesse Jackson, US President Bill Clinton's special envoy to Africa, met Nigerian president-elect Obasanjo here Monday to discuss the recent elections, US officials said. Jackson also met Olu Falae, who lost last month's presidential poll to Obasanjo.

The US envoy arrived in Nigeria from Europe early Monday and went straight to Obasanjo, a few miles outside Lagos, for the meeting with Obasanjo.

The two men agreed on the need to make Nigeria following the February 27 elections, marred by controversy over claims of vote-rigging.

Jackson then returned to Lagos to meet Falae, a former finance minister, who has refused to accept the results announced Monday and has said he will challenge the outcome in court.

Speaking to reporters briefly after the second meeting, Jackson said both had

been "good" meetings but refused to go into details.

Falae said his talks with Jackson had been "fruitful".

The United States is anxious that the election results be accepted so that the transition from the military government of General Abdulsalam Abubakar can hand over as scheduled to his civilian successor on May 29.

British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook was meanwhile due in Abuja late Monday to kick off a two-day visit; during which he is also expected to meet both Obasanjo and Falae.

President-elect Obasanjo will start a grueling month-long world tour to renew his international contacts, a top aide said Monday.

Obasanjo will head Saturday to South Africa for his first foreign visit since being declared president-elect last week.

From South Africa, Obasanjo will travel to Namibia, Mozambique, Tanzania and Kenya, in a quick run round old African friends, his aide said.

He will then head to Asia, where he will visit China and Japan, he added, saying dates were still being firmed up for the trips, expected in the second half of March.

From Asia, and after a brief stop back in Nigeria, the retired general will head to Britain, France, Germany and Italy on the European leg of this odyssey.

And, possibly after another quick respite in Nigeria, he will then wrap it up with a visit to the United States, Ugochukwu said.

Obasanjo, who only last year was in jail under late dictator General Sani Abacha, made much of his international contacts during the campaign leading up to the February 27 presidential election.

WORLD WATCH

Indonesian women protest against military violence

JAKARTA — Indonesian police on Monday, International Women's Day, arrested more than 50 women who had protested outside the Jakarta United Nations building against violence, eye-witnesses said.

The women and girls were bundled into buses and taken to a police station for failing to inform authorities of the protest in advance.

Last May, more than 100 females of mostly Chinese origin were raped, many allegedly by soldiers, during the riots that shook Jakarta and led to the downfall of former president Suharto, human rights groups say. During their protest Monday, the women demanded compensation from the armed forces for alleged rapes of women in the troubled provinces of East Timor, Aceh and Irian Jaya — Deutsche Presse-Agentur.

New case of madcow disease in France

PARIS — A new case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) has been detected in western France, the seventh case this year and the 56th to date, the agriculture ministry said Monday.

The milk cow was born in April 1993. The cow's entire herd of 41 cattle in the Sarthe region was destroyed — Agence France Presse.

Kenyan thief gets swift retribution

NAIROBI — A Kenyan thief who stole the collection at a Sunday service in Nairobi's All Saints Cathedral was killed by a bus when he fled with his loot, the Kenya Times newspaper reported on Monday.

The middle-aged man sat with worshippers through the service without arousing suspicions.

"But when the time for offerings was reached... Satan apparently took control and he was sighted by some horrified faithful, stashing some of the money into his pockets," the newspaper said. When confronted, he took to his heels, ran out onto a busy highway and straight into the path of a speeding bus, the paper said — Reuters.

India launches 'women only' flights

NEW DELHI — India's state-run airlines Monday operated three flights with an all-female crew to mark International Women's Day, the Press Trust of India reported.

A spokesman for Indian Airlines said one of the flights was from Bombay to Sharjah, which had two female pilots and six air hostesses. He said similar flights were operated from Bombay to the southern Indian city of Bangalore and another from New Delhi to the Nepalese capital Kathmandu — Agence France Presse.

160 diamonds for Barbie's 40th birthday

LONDON — Barbie, the world's most celebrated doll, marks her 40th birthday this week with a unique diamond-encrusted dress.

The \$80,000 gown with its 160 diamonds was created by Barbie's manufacturer Mattel together with diamond mining giant De Beers. It was launched and put on exhibit Monday at one of London's most famous jewellers. A separate exhibition of old and new Barbie dolls was also on display at the Harrods department store.

Barbie is the world's best-selling toy, and in 1997 worldwide sales grew to more than \$1.9 billion. The pink plastic figure, with a huge range of outfits, is sold in more than 150 countries and is said to be the brand leader in every one — Agence France Presse.

Russian woman courts disaster in bid to get a boyfriend

MOSCOW — A young Russian woman who longs to be bowled over by a boyfriend has been throwing herself in front of passing cars in a bid to meet Mr. Right. According to Interfax news agency Monday, the 20-year-old from the Far East town of Khabarovsk avoids the drivers of humble saloon cars and lies in wait for luxury limousines instead.

So far every driver has managed to brake in time. Most respond to the dangerous courtship method by shouting abuse but the woman still reports every incident in the hope of finding out the addresses of her victims — Deutsche Presse-Agentur.

A.F.M TRADE

CURRENCY	CLOSING	CHANGE
BANKS		
ARAB BK	224.000	-1.00
NTL BK	1.820	0.03
BK OF JORDAN	1.320	0.00
INDUSTRIAL DEV. BK	1.400	-0.03
THE HOUSING BK	2.880	-0.04
JO. KUWAIT BK	1.800	-0.04
JO. GULF BK	0.850	0.00
JO. ISLAMIC BK	1.690	-0.01
JO. INVS. & FIN. BK	1.300	-0.03
PHILADELPHIA BK	0.820	0.00

BANKS INDEX	281.350	-0.55%
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SERVICES		
ELECTRIC POWER	1.700	-0.01
IRBID ELECTRICITY	1.300	0.02
PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	0.830	0.01
JO. INT'L TRADING CEN	0.280	0.00
AL-RAI	0.700	0.02
COMMODORE	1.110	0.03
AL-ZARQA FOR EDU	0.840	0.02
ARAB INT'L FOR INVS. &	1.350	0.00
UNIFIED LAND TRANS	1.130	0.00

SERVICES INDEX	114.370	+0.11%
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INDUSTRY		
CEMENT	3.780	0.03
PHOSPHATE	2.330	-0.04
ARAB POTASH	4.250	0.05
PETROLEUM REFINERY	10.880	-0.05
JO. TANNING	8.380	-0.05
THE IND. COMM. & AGRI	1.880	0.02
ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL	3.110	0.06
TOBACCO & CIGARET	1.880	0.02
DAR AL DAWA	8.170	0.02
JO. STEEL	1.010	0.00
ARAB ALUMINIUM	1.780	0.04
CHLORINE	1.280	0.04
LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	0.400	0.00
NTL IND	0.380	0.00
PETRO - CHEMICAL	0.250	0.00
CHEMICAL & VEGETABL	1.110	0.00
UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL	0.920	0.04
NTL CABLE	0.510	0.01
SULPHO - CHEMICALS	0.440	0.00
ARAB CENTER FOR PHA	1.280	-0.02
KAWTHER	0.350	0.02
EL-ZAY	1.280	0.00
UNIVERSAL MODERN IN	0.580	0.00
IND. RESOURCES	0.440	0.02
NTL ALUMINIUM	0.810	0.01

INDUSTRY INDEX	87.760	+0.88%
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PARALLEL		
EXPORT BK 75%	0.940	-0.01
JO. INT'L INS	0.870	-0.03
ARAB FINANCIAL INVS	0.800	-0.03
AL - EKBAL	0.870	0.00
ADVANCED PHAR	0.820	0.00
MEDICAL APPLIANCES	0.460	0.00
AL DAWLAH	0.680	0.02
ARAB INVESTORES	1.080	0.01
OPTICAL & AUDIAL	0.320	0.01
CENTURY	1.190	0.00
NAMICO	0.180	0.01
MIDDLE EAST PHAR	0.880	0.01
UNION TOBACCO	3.450	-0.10
AL-RAZI	0.810	-0.01
UNITED ENG. IND	0.180	0.00
INT'L CERAMIC	0.380	0.00
NTL POULTRY	0.850	0.00
ARAB JO. INVS	1.000	0.00

GRAND INDEX	186.26	-0.18%
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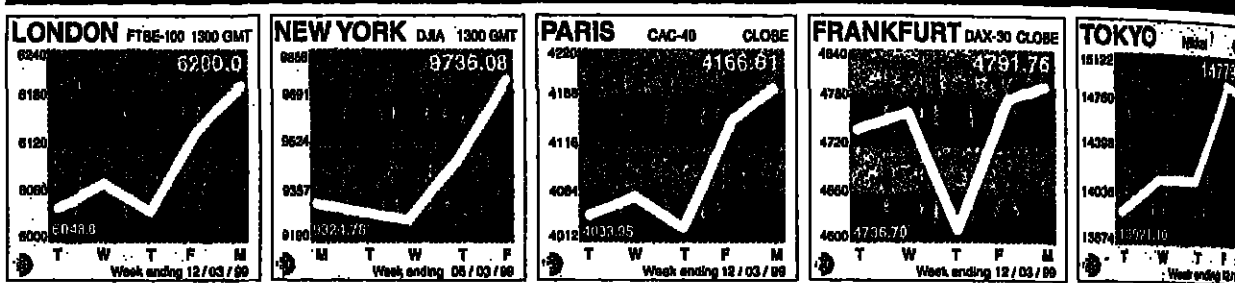
TOURISTS' DINAR

CURRENCY	ASK	BID
US DOLLAR	0.7080	0.7100
GBRITAIN STERLING	1.1335	1.1392
GERMANY MARK	0.3919	0.3939
SWITZERLAND FRANC	0.4813	0.4837
FRANCE FRANC	0.1169	0.1174
JAPAN YEN*	0.5818	0.5847
HOLLAND GUILDER	0.3478	0.3498
ITALY LIRA*	0.0396	0.0398
EURO	0.7665	0.7704

DEPOSIT INTEREST RATES

CURRENCY	1M	3M	6M	1Y
US\$	4.5900	4.6500	4.7800	5.0000
GBP	5.3800	5.1900	5.0900	5.0000
EURO	3.0400	2.9900	2.9400	2.8500
DM	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
CHF	1.1600	1.1600	1.2000	1.3000
JPY	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

WORLD MARKETS



REGIONAL CURRENCIES

CURRENCY	JORDAN DINAR	SAUDI RIYAL	U.A.E. DIRHAM	BAHRAIN DINAR	OMAN RIYAL	QATAR RIYAL	KUWAIT DINAR	EGYPT POUND
JORDAN DINAR	1.0000	0.1888	0.1929	1.8782	1.8392	0.1945	2.3397	0.2077
SAUDI RIYAL	5.2976	1.0000	1.0217	9.9801	9.7433	1.0304	12.3949	1.1006
U.A.E. DIRHAM	5.1850	0.9788	1.0000	9.7387	9.5363	1.0085	12.1315	1.0772
BAHRAIN DINAR	0.5324	0.1005	0.1027	1.0000	0.9792	0.1038	1.2457	0.1108
OMAN RIYAL	0.5437	0.1028	0.1049	1.0212	1.0000	0.1058	1.2721	0.1130
QATAR RIYAL	5.1412	0.9705	0.9916	9.8585	9.4588	1.0000	12.0291	1.0881
KUWAIT DINAR	0.4274	0.0807	0.0824	0.8028	0.7861	0.0831	1.0000	0.0888
EGYPT POUND	4.8136	0.9086	0.9284	9.0410	8.8531	0.9363	11.2624	1.0000
LEBANON LIRA	21.2288	4.0073	4.0943	39.8727	39.0440	4.1291	49.6685	4.4102
US DOLLAR	1.4124	0.2668	0.2724	2.6529	2.5977	0.2747	3.3047	0.2834
GBRITAIN STERLING	0.8799	0.1681	0.1697	1.8527	1.8183	0.1711	2.0587	0.1828
GERMANY MARK	2.5353	0.4788	0.4890	4.7819	4.6829	0.4931	5.9319	0.5287
SWITZERLAND FRANC	2.0627	0.3894	0.3978	3.8743	3.7937	0.4012	4.8282	0.4285
FRANCE FRANC	8.5037	1.8052	1.8400	15.9719	15.8400	1.8540	19.8962	1.7868
JAPAN YEN*	1.7137	0.3235	0.3305	3.2187	3.1518	0.3333	4.0096	0.3580
HOLLAND GUILDER	2.8559	0.5391	0.5508	5.3641	5.2526	0.5555	6.8821	0.5933
SWEDEN KRONA	11.8510	2.1993	2.2470	21.8833	21.4285	2.2662	27.2801	2.4205
ITALY LIRA*	25.1007	4.7381	4.8410	47.1450	46.1652	4.8822	58.7287	5.2146
BELGIUM FRANC	52.2938	9.8712	10.0855	98.2199	96.1787	10.1714	122.3529	10.8638
AUSTRALIA DOLLAR	2.2491	0.4245	0.4338	4.2243	4.1365	0.4375	5.2622	0.4872
GREEK DRACHMA	4.1979	0.7924	0.8098	7.8846	7.7207	0.8165	9.8219	0.8721
CYPRUS POUND	0.7483	0.1413	0.1443	1.4055	1.3763	0.1455	1.7608	0.1655
AUSTRIA SCHILLING	17.8390	3.3674	3.4405	33.5058	32.8085	3.4698	41.7383	3.7060
CANADA DOLLAR	2.1412	0.4042	0.4130	4.0218	3.9382	0.4165	5.0099	0.4448
EURO	1.3033	0.2480	0.2514	2.4480	2.3971	0.2535	3.0495	0.2708

INTERNATIONAL CURRENCIES

CURRENCY	US DOLLAR	GBRITAIN STERLING	GERMANY MARK	SWITZERLAND FRANC	FRANCE FRANC	JAPAN YEN	HOLLAND GUILDER	ITALY LIRA
US DOLLAR	1.0000	1.8052	0.5571	0.6847	0.1661	0.8242	0.4948	5.6271
GBRITAIN STERLING	0.6230	1.0000	0.3471	0.4268	0.1035	0.5135	0.3081	3.5055
GERMANY MARK	1.7950	2.8813	1.0000	1.2291	0.2981	1.4794	0.8877	10.1008
SWITZERLAND FRANC	1.4604	2.3442	0.8138	1.0000	0.2426	1.2037	0.7223	8.2177
FRANCE FRANC	6.0206	9.8643	3.3541	4.1226	1.0000	4.9622	2.9778	33.8782
JAPAN YEN*	121.3300	194.7689	67.5933	83.0800	20.1526	1.0000	60.0049	682.7300
HOLLAND GUILDER	2.0220	3.2457	1.1265	1.3848	0.3358	1.8665	1.0000	11.3779
SWEDEN KRONA	8.2489	13.2411	4.5955	5.6484	1.3701	6.7987	4.0798	46.4170
ITALY LIRA*	17.7713	28.5265	9.9004	12.1888	2.9517	14.8471	8.7890	208.3359
BELGIUM FRANC	37.0240	59.4309	20.6282	25.3320	6.1496	30.5151	18.3106	208.3359
AUSTRALIA DOLLAR	1.5924	2.5561	0.8871	1.0904	0.2645	1.3124	0.7875	8.9603
GREEK DRACHMA	2.9721	4.7708	1.6558	2.0351	0.4937	2.4496	1.4899	16.7242
CYPRUS POUND	0.5298	0.8504	0.2852	0.3828	0.0880	0.4387	0.2820	2.8812
AUSTRIA SCHILLING	12.8300	20.2737	7.0362	8.6483	2.0978	10.4096	6.2463	71.0899
CANADA DOLLAR	1.5160	2.4335	0.8446	1.0381	0.2518	1.2495	0.7498	8.8308
EURO	0.9228	1.4812	0.5141	0.6319	0.1633	0.7885	0.4884	5.1024

ARAB CAPITAL MARKETS

ARAB INS GROUP	↓ 0.84	-0.02
ARAB INT. INS.	↑ 0.075	+0.007
AHLI COM. BANK	0.396	
A.B.C. - \$-	↓ 5.90	-0.10
BAH INSURANCE	0.276	
BANK BAH + KWT	↑ 0.230	+0.004
BAH COM. FALT	↓ 0.240	
BAH HOTEL	0.202	
B. DUTY FREE	↓ 0.498	-0.002
BAH MILLS	↓ 0.175	-0.002
BAH ISLAM. BANK	↓ 0.252	-0.002
BAH ISLAMIC INS	↓ 0.280	-0.020
BAH + KWT INS.	0.400	
BAH INT. BANK	↓ 0.155	-0.001
BAH LEISURE CO.	↑ 0.098	+0.001
BAH MID E. BANK	0.167	
BAH MAR. + M. INT	↓ 0.472	-0.004
BAH SAUDI BANK	0.150	
BAH SHIP R ENG	↑ 0.520	+0.020
BAH TOURISM	↓ 0.136	-0.002
BAH TELECOM	↑ 0.660	+0.010
DELMON POULTRY	↓ 0.166	-0.004
FAYSAL ISLAM - \$-	↑ 2.08	+0.08
TRAFFCO	0.302	

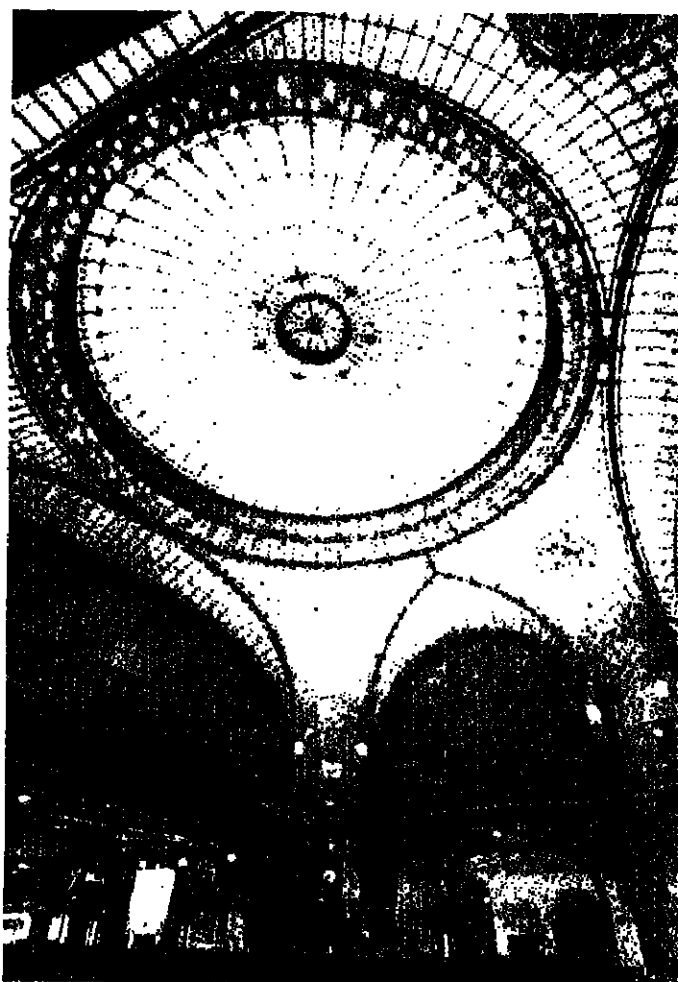
NEAD INDEX	3858.07
COMM. BANK OF DUBAI	91
NAT. BANK OF SHARJAH	16
EMIRATES INT. BANK	50
NAT. BANK OF RASALHMAH	30
NAT. BANK OF UMM AL QUWAIN	300
ABU DHABI COMM. BANK	600
INVEST BANK	42
NAT. BANK OF FUJAIRAH	300
NAT. BANK OF ABU DHABI	700
DUBAI ISLAMIC BANK	22
NAT. BANK OF DUBAI	1020
BANK OF SHARJAH	310
COMM. BANK INTERNATIONAL	9
UNION NAT. BANK	50
ABU DHABI ISLAMIC BANK	26
MASHREQ BANK	1300
UNITED ARAB BANK	40
FIRST GULF BANK	6
E T I S A L A T	1725
ABU DHABI NAT. HOTELS CO	175
NAT. MARINE DREDGING	630
UNION PROPERTIES CO.	42
ABU DHABI AVIATION	620
ABU DHABI NAT. FOODSTUFF CO.	40
DUBAI INVESTMENT CO.	16
ABU DHABI SHIP BUILDING CO.	32
E M A R C O.	31
OASIS INT. LEASING CO.	21
T A B R E E D	11
J U L P H A R	4
PRIME BUILDING TRADING EST.	10
OMAN INSURANCE CO.	1000
ALAIN AHLIA INSURANCE CO.	1400
AL DAFRAH INSURANCE CO.	700
ABU DHABI NAT. INSURANCE CO	115
THE EMIRATES INSURANCE CO.	900
AL KHARNEH INSURANCE CO.	150
AL BUHAIRAH INSURANCE CO.	16
DUBAI NAT. INSURANCE CO.	55
UNION INSURANCE CO.	12
AL WATHEB INSURANCE CO	5
AL SHARJAH INSURANCE CO.	9

MISR EXTERIOR BK	↑ 200.04	+5.00
VITOR SAE EGYPT	↑ 468.56	+5.00
MISR HOTELS	↑ 129.00	+4.88
EFG HERMES HOLD	↑ 99.56	+5.00
MIBANK	↑ 90.70	+4.71
HELIOPOLIS HOUS	↑ 205.25	+1.74
NASR CITY HOUS	↑ 115.00	+2.54
ALX. PHARMACEUT.	↑ 120.00	+2.05
GIZA CONTRACTING	↑ 56.75	+3.49
PAINT & CHEM IND	↑ 75.00	+2.51

ARAB BNK CORP	0.495
AERATED CONCRETE	↓ 0.184
ARABIAN GEN INV.	↓ 0.184
AHLIA INS. CO.	
ARAB REAL EST.	
ARAB INS GROUP	
BKME KUWAIT	↑ 0.178
BURGAN BANK	↑ 0.178
LIVESTOCK T.T CO	↑ 0.178
NATIONAL CLEANING	↑ 0.610
KWT COMPUTER CO.	↑ 0.106
COM. FACILITIES	↑ 0.475
FIRST INV. FUND	
KWT FOOD CO.	
GULF CEMENT	↑ 0.178
GULF INS. CO.	
INT. FIN ADVISERS	↓ 0.112
INTL INV GROUP	
INT'L INVEST PRJT	↑ 0.134
AL-AHLI BANK	↑ 0.160
AL-ARABI HOLDING	↑ 0.265
ARAB INVEST GRP	↑ 0.124
AL-AHLIA INV. CO.	↑ 0.188
AJAL REAL EST.	
BAHRAIN INT. BNK	↑ 0.118
BOUBAYAN PETROCH.	↑ 0.180
GULF CABLE IND	
COMMERCIAL BANK	↑ 0.160
COAST INV. & DEV.	
EDUCATIONAL SERV	
FUJAIRAH CEMENT	↑ 0.108
UNITED FISHERIES	↑ 0.078
GULF BANK	↑ 0.450
GULF GLASS CO.	↑ 0.280
ITAL CEMENT CO.	↑ 0.740
INDUST. INVEST. CO.	↑ 0.156
THE INT. INVESTORS	↑ 0.370

AUDI BANQUE	28.3750	
BQ. EUROPEENNE		
BOU KHALIL MKTS	2.0000	
BQ LIBANAISE COM		
BANK OF BEIRUT	7.5625	
BYBLOS BANK	2.6875	
ETERNIT		
LEE. HLDGS FUND		
RYMCO	3.0000	
STE. CIM BLANCS B		
STE CIM BLANCS N		
STE CIM LIBANAIS		
SOLIDERE A	8.0000	
SOLIDERE B	8.3750	
UNICERAMIC B C	1.9375	+0.0313

EUROPEAN STOCKS POISED TO RISE



The opulence of the big banking halls

LONDON (R) — European stocks were mostly weaker on Monday despite Friday's record close on Wall Street, amid concern over U.S. interest rates and weak euro-zone economies.

The euro recovered above \$1.09 while bonds fell amid profit taking. Oil futures were expected to start well up after Saudi Arabia and Iran's oil ministers met at the weekend to try to resolve a long dispute over output cuts.

Despite Friday's 2.8 percent jump on Wall Street, which took the Dow Jones index of blue chips to a record close of 9,736.08, leading European stock indices were weaker in early trade.

European markets followed the example of Asian bourses, where early gains soon evaporated as investors reassessed recent gains and doubts returned about the direction of U.S. interest rates.

Pan-European indices were 0.0 - 4.5 percent weaker, while the London, Frankfurt and Paris indices were between 0.3 percent down and 0.1 percent up.

"As the message gets across that the U.S. economy is really very strong, the perception will be that U.S. interest rates will go up," said Paul Horne, European equity economist Salomon Smith Barney.

Friday's rise in U.S. stocks came after

domestic employment data showed a benign picture of inflationary pressures in the labor market. S&P index futures traded on Globex were 0.3 points lower in early European trade.

In Asia, the Nikkei 225 index briefly hurdled the 15,000 barrier before slipping 0.8 percent to 14,779.05 by the close. Hong Kong stocks were up 0.2 percent.

In the foreign exchange markets, the euro recovered some ground against the dollar, mainly in the wake of remarks on the euro zone's interest rates.

Dealers said the head of Germany's Bundesbank, Hans Tietmeyer, caught the market's attention when he said the euro's weakness was one of the reasons why the European Central Bank should not lower interest rates.

The excerpts from a newspaper interview, released on Sunday, helped the euro to strengthen back above \$1.09 from record lows last week. The dollar was also weaker against the yen, holding just above 121 yen compared with highs above 123 last week.

Oil futures were called to start well up after a Gulf source said Iran's oil minister on Sunday held "good" talks with his Saudi counterpart over output cuts compliance. April Brent was expected to open around 20 cents up in London from

Friday's close of \$11.56 a barrel.

In the bond markets, euro-zone government debt opened lower after Friday's sharp gains, with traders citing profit-taking. Prices saw a sharp run-up on Friday in line with U.S. Treasuries after the U.S. payrolls data.

Gloomy forecasts for euro-zone economic growth would continue to depress European stocks, analysts said.

"The outlook for European interest rates means there is little reason to buy (euro-zone equities) for the medium term, so even if the markets go up, there will still be funds selling stocks to get a little more liquidity," Amin Naser, managing director at Cantor Fitzgerald in Frankfurt said.

Industrial giant Siemens was little changed after a big rise last week and speculation it was poised to invest three billion marks in a U.S. data networking venture. Investors were focusing on a company news conference on Internet networks due to begin this afternoon in New York.

Belgian-Dutch financial services group Fortis was up 2.2 percent after announcing it had bought American Bank Insurance Group for \$2.6 billion. It forecast over \$100 million pre-tax synergistic benefits within three to five years.

SPONSORING BECOMES BIG BUSINESS IN GERMANY

Munich (ADP) — Breweries go for sports, the sweets industry for entertainment shows, insurance companies for TV movies, and, hardly surprisingly, bankers for business reports. It used to be forbidden but sponsoring has become an important marketing instrument in Germany's sports, business, and cultural activities.

Television advertising brought the nation's public and commercial broadcasters upwards of 8 billion German marks (\$4.46 billion U.S.) last year, compared with 7.4 billion marks in 1998. Though still reflecting modest growth, their income from TV advertising, usually aired in a five minute package of varied spots, is heading for saturation point. Nevertheless, TV marketers have discovered a new growth industry, namely sponsoring.

Revenues from sponsoring "messages" posted a growth rate of 14.4 per cent last year, as no less than 21,000 programmes found sponsors, according to Observer RTV, a media evaluation company in Baden-Baden.

The advertising marketing company

IP in Kronberg predicts that this year turnover from sponsoring will reach about 160 million marks compared with 152 million marks in 1998. Five years before that when sponsoring was introduced to the German airways, the number of sponsor clips totalled only 1,300. They quickly rose to 3,100 in 1994, a rapid growth that has so far shown no limits.

The mini-boom really took off in August 1994, when new guidelines went into effect, allowing a sponsor's announcement to show the company's name, product and logo at the beginning and end of programs. Unlike advertising spots aired in the commercial channels, no sponsor breaks are allowed.

The revised regulations proved a boon to Germany's public networks, ARD and ZDF, which were allowed to use sponsor spots after prime time. Under the "coexistence" state treaty contract with privately-run channels, the public broadcasters are limited to 20 minutes of pre-prime time advertising on weekdays and never on

Sundays or holidays. To the chagrin of the ad-dependent commercial broadcasters, which under the treaty are allowed advertising around-the-clock, the ARD and ZDF can circumvent prime time and Sunday restrictions by airing perfectly legal sponsor clips.

The ARD and ZDF each posted 28 million marks from sponsors, while the commercial channels likewise reaped much welcome increment. RTL took in 32 million marks, SAT 1, 31 million marks and the all sports channel DSF 15 million marks, with the remaining 18 million marks going to the news channel n-tv, Vox and others.

According to the IP, the majority of companies sponsoring programs include publishers, breweries, food and softdrink companies, car manufacturers, and cosmetic and electric appliance firms.

Banks, which aired 2,238 sponsor clips last year, topped the list of companies, followed by breweries with 2,824 and insurance companies with

2,238 clips. As to programming, weather reports found the most sponsors, with 5,238 ahead of sports, a favorite of beer makers, with 4,035. Sponsor companies also went for TV magazines, stock market reports, and TV series and films, according to Observer RTV.

Although the ARD, an association of 10 member stations, and ZDF find the additional sponsor revenues useful, the public networks have come in for sharp criticism amidst cries that the practice be discontinued.

The ARD obtains most of its funding from the monthly set fees of 28.25 marks, which brought it 10.5 billion marks in 1997. One of the managing directors of the ARD members, Fritz Pleitgen of the Cologne-based WDR, complained that the revenues coming from sponsors were "damaging the image" of the association.

Pleitgen said the relatively small proceeds stemming from sponsoring were hardly worthwhile in view of the image question. He was referring to the public networks' mandate to air

programming in the public interest, which, besides the usual sports and entertainment, includes election coverage, interviews, political magazines and documentaries.

Bavarian state chancellor Erwin Huber said it was not the task of the ARD and ZDF to present "possible beer markets." He predicted that the 16 states, who are responsible for media policy, would again ban sponsoring. Such criticism notwithstanding, in one sense, all broadcasters welcome sponsors since a seven second spot virtually eliminates zapping, the advertiser's bane, when annoyed viewers use their remote control panel, to switch to another channel. Likewise sponsor spots offer exclusiveness by not being interrupted together with other spots in a five-minute block.

And TV viewers find sponsor presentations far less disturbing than advertising blocks, which on the private channels often interrupt the movie or series just when the program is reaching a high point.

LVMH COVETS GUCCI FASHION HOUSE

Tom Ford has never been afraid to mix sex and gain. Consider the red patent-leather pumps with the five-inch, steel-spike heels that he designed for Gucci in 1997. But when Ford debuted his fall-winter 1999-2000 collection on the runway in Milan last week, he went beyond his hallmark S&M-tinged style and into battle gear. Models clad in high-high amouca-skin boots and fox bomber jackets marched ferociously down the catwalk, their usual pouts replaced with sneers. Some wore polished leather breastplates that could have deflected a speeding bullet.

They were ready to fight. And so, it seemed, was Gucci. Since early January the company has been under assault by LVMH, Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, the French luxury-goods conglomerate run by Bernard Arnault. LVMH, which already owns Dior, Givenchy, Louis Vuitton, Lacroix, Kenzo, Celine and Loewe, has spent \$1.4 billion buying 34.4 percent of the red-hot Florentine fashion house.

It's a lot, but Gucci is worth it. Once known mostly for sturdy wallets and shoes, Gucci now makes some of the sexiest clothes on the planet, worn by the likes of Madonna and Gwyneth Paltrow. Credit for the turnaround goes largely to Tom Ford, who left Perry Ellis for Gucci in 1990, becoming head designer there in 1994.

The problem is, neither Ford nor Gucci's capable CEO, Domenico De Sole, is happy about the prospect of a new boss. De Sole has called the LVMH purchase a "creeping takeover," and claims that LVMH simply doesn't want to buy the company outright and pay a fair price.

He's also incensed that Arnault didn't call him before purchasing the stock. Arnault says he has no desire to alienate Gucci's management. But by suing Gucci for diluting its stock in an attempt to ward off a takeover, that's certainly what he is doing.

This is all very bad news for Arnault, who hopes to use the \$1 billion-in-sales Gucci—one of the world's most profitable luxury-fashion companies—to spearhead its vital expansion in the United States. Until recently, there were enough extremely rich women outside the States—particularly in Asia—to keep LVMH growing smartly.

They craved accessories, LVMH's specialty, and snatched up Vuitton knapsacks and Lady Dior bags so fast that the stores couldn't keep them in stock. From 1996 to 1997, LVMH's worldwide sales grew by 54 percent, to more than \$8 billion.

But Asia's financial crisis changed all that. Many luxury-fashion companies saw their sales drop by 40 to 50 percent practically overnight; LVMH's diversity was somewhat of a buffer, but even it suffered a sales drop of 5.4 percent from 1997 to 1998. In wealthy America, though, spending on luxury goods is growing four times as fast as overall spending. For LVMH, the States had never been a strong market.

But Arnault, who cut his corporate teeth in the U.S. property-development business in the 1980s, was determined to make LVMH an American success. First he would freshen up the brands he already owned.

Then he would acquire others with proven U.S. appeal including Gucci. Last year Arnault began implementing part one of his plan. He installed a trio of bright young American designers to head up three old LVMH companies: Marc Jacobs at Louis Vuitton, Narciso Rodriguez at Loewe and Michael Kors at Celine.

Their mandate? To come up with youthful, desirable clothes and accessories that will attract a bevy of new customers preferably young, rich and American. The first U.S. Louis Vuitton store opened last fall



Another one for the collection

in New York and will be followed by one in Beverly Hills in October. Celine's eight U.S. boutiques are flourishing, and plans are underway to open several more.

The plan extends beyond fashion. Arnault also opened 14 U.S. outlets of Sephora, his cosmetics-and-perfume chain. In 1998, he will launch 50 more this year. He wisely hired Pia Getty one of the famed blond, well-married Miller sisters to be the chain's U.S. ambassador.

The SoHo outlet is now packed with locals whose perfect blowouts resemble Getty's own coif.

In America and beyond, good retailing requires a splash of entertainment, and there again Arnault is finally on top of things. In places like Walldi, he has turned his duty-free shops into "attraction centers" that showcase LVMH products. He is most excited by the one in Guam, scheduled to open this summer.

"It's a big mall," he told NEWSWEEK, "with an aquarium filled with fish. And not small fish. Sharks! It's very big, and you walk through a tunnel surrounded by big fish sharks to your right and left and

when you come out, you're in Louis Vuitton!" The underwater galleries will be surpassed only by Arnault's new American headquarters: a 23-story skyscraper on East 57th Street in New York. "People will come to see it," he said, beaming, "like the Empire State Building."

As for part two of his U.S. strategy, Arnault made a bid last year for the perfume-and-beauty division of the French pharmaceuticals group Sanofi S.A., which includes fragrances by Oscar de la Renta and the house of Yves Saint Laurent.

By Christmas, negotiations had broken down—sources claim Arnault didn't want to pay Sanofi's \$1 billion-plus asking price. But rumor has it he will launch another bid soon.

More important, Arnault has entered into talks with Giorgio Armani, the designer of choice for Wall Street dealmakers and Hollywood players. When Arnault sat down in the front row of the Armani menswear show last January in Milan, the fashion industry began to buzz. Arnault denied his interest in the company for weeks. Finally, in mid-February, Armani CEO Pino Brusone told the Italian press that he was indeed talking to Arnault about selling him a stake in Armani. A day later Arnault told NEWSWEEK that he hoped the deal would come through.

"It is an extraordinary brand," he said, "a \$1 billion company that is very profitable."

Armani has sizzle, all right. But Gucci and Tom Ford are a five-alarm fire. Gucci would heat up LVMH's American business in a hurry—provided, of course, that Arnault can win the company without losing its cachet. Since that would be easier with Ford, the task is a tricky one. Ford distrusts Arnault, and has for years. Back in 1994 Arnault spoke with the Bahrain-based Investcorp, then owner of Gucci, about buying the company, which was on the verge of bankruptcy. Ford reportedly cringed he knew Arnault's history of gobbling up fashion houses and strong-arming the creative types. He is said to have told friends he wanted nothing to do with Arnault. Eventually, Arnault pulled out of the deal, telling Gucci executives that he thought the company was going nowhere.

Today Ford has a change-of-control clause in his contract, which allows him to leave the company if any one shareholder purchases 35 percent of Gucci. If Ford goes, De Sole may, too. The CEO was furious when Arnault suggested back in January that Yves Carcelle, the head of leather goods at LVMH, take a seat on the Gucci board (Gucci and Vuitton vie for the same retail space and share customers). Arnault later offered an outside candidate.

But De Sole didn't bite. He did tell Arnault that if LVMH made a "fair" offer for the rest of Gucci's shares, he and Ford would stay. If Arnault did not want to make a 100 percent purchase, then De Sole wanted Arnault to sign a "stand-still" agreement guaranteeing Gucci's independence. Arnault did neither.

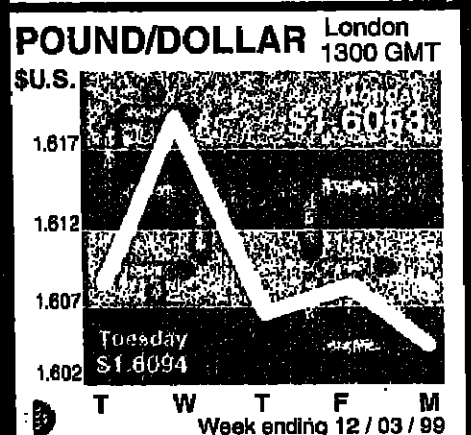
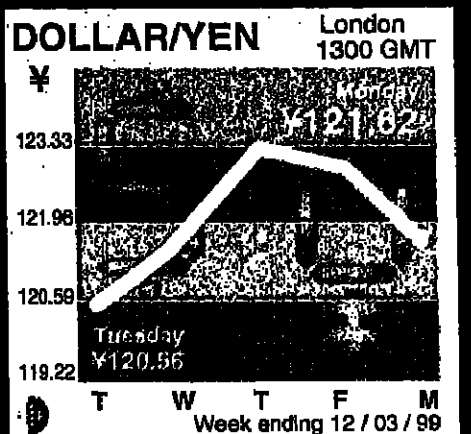
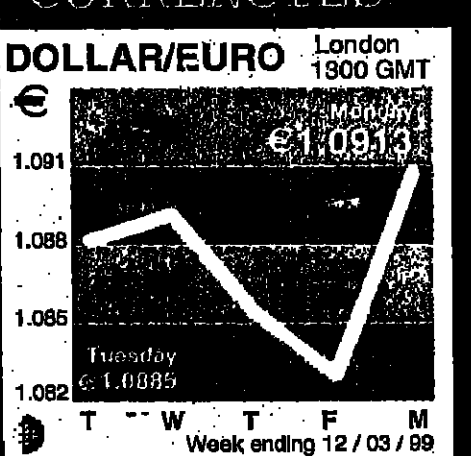
Three weeks later De Sole retaliated, creating an employee stock-option plan (ESOP). The plan diluted Arnault's stake in Gucci to 26 percent. Arnault cried foul, and LVMH threatened to file a complaint with the SEC, demanding that Gucci be de-listed from the New York Stock Exchange. LVMH also sued Gucci in Holland, where it is registered, for violating Dutch corporate law. "Gucci said this plan was created not for the employees but to be an obstacle to LVMH," said Pierre Gode, CEO of Louis Vuitton, S.A. "That's not nice, and it's not legal." Presumably the court will decide that.

THE BEST OF
Newsweek

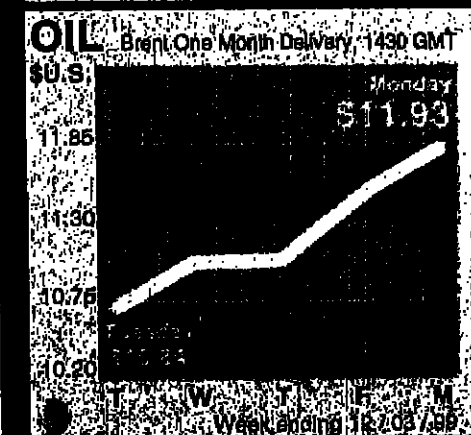
DAIWA BANK GIVES UP TRUST OPERATIONS

TOKYO — Japan's troubled Daiwa Bank told Monday it may give up its trust-banking operations as it comes under pressure to trim back its bad loans and clear up its balance sheet. Daiwa was one of the banks which collapsed last year, and its parent Daiwa Kangri Bank Ltd. said Monday it may give up its trust-banking operations as it comes under pressure to trim back its bad loans and clear up its balance sheet. Daiwa was one of the banks which collapsed last year, and its parent Daiwa Kangri Bank Ltd. said Monday it may give up its trust-banking operations as it comes under pressure to trim back its bad loans and clear up its balance sheet.

CURRENCIES



COMMODITIES



EDUCATION & PARENTING

DEALING WITH STUTTERING

PARENTS PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN HELPING THEIR CHILD COPE

For thousands of years, the problem of stuttering, also known as stammering, has affected all cultures and races, both sexes and people of all ages, rich or poor.

Communication disorder specialists have a lot to say about the nature, causes, characteristics, people's awareness and treatment of stuttering.

Mousa Amayreh, a speech-language pathologist, Dept. of Linguistics and Phonetics, University Of Jordan, defined stuttering as "a developmental communication or fluency disorder, that begins in childhood and results from an unknown origin."

Briefly, "stuttering is the opposite of talking smoothly and continuously without any pauses, hesitations, interjections, or even restarting the utterance," explained Amayreh.

Stuttering is caused by two factors. The most important and documented one is "the genetic factor in which we find stuttering among children whose parents or relatives stuttered at certain points of their life," said Amayreh.

Another factor is "the neuro-

physiological factor, which is related to mistiming or lack of coordination between orders coming from the brain and their execution to produce speech," continued Amayreh.

In cases of children suffering from stuttering, their condition

is also known as stuttering characteristics.

"Core behaviors involve: repetition of the first syllable or sound of the first word, prolongation of sounds and blocks that happen when a stutterer wants to utter something, but

is not aware of his problem in early childhood, he starts realizing it when others pay attention to the way he speaks. If their reaction towards his stuttering is positive, it is most likely that spontaneous recovery will take place.

speech-language specialist, some stutterers do not participate at school, and even if they would like to do so, their teachers ignore them. Thus, every teacher should be aware of and considerate to his student's dilemma.

For instance, the teacher may give the stutterer short questions to answer or even short paragraphs to read. As a result, the stutterer will have confidence in his ability to participate like any normal student, added Khaleel.

Despite the fact that stuttering is still believed to be some sort of a riddle, specialists have been able to classify stuttering into three stages: beginning, intermediate and advanced where each requires a specific treatment.

"The beginning stage involves a treatment that depends on counseling parents, finding some ways to make the environment surrounding the child as positive as possible, keeping the child unaware of his dilemma, talking slowly in front of him, and giving the child as much time as needed," asserted Amayreh.

On the other hand, if their reaction is negative, "a stutterer, a child or an adult, might be embarrassed and frustrated. Consequently, this puts a lot of pressure upon him.

"He may become aggressive or he may just become isolated from others especially if he lacks academic or sport achievements to lean on," remarked Amayreh.

According to Yasser Khaleel, a

Khaleel presented the steps of treatment applied with stutterers adapted from a grandmother to her grandson which are now universally applied.

Sentence Therapy

1. Do not work so hard to talk.
2. If you believe in yourself, you can do it.
3. Just remember to slow down.
4. Think before you talk.
5. Keep it simple.
6. I love you.

Aim of Therapy

- Psychological adjustment (no tension).
- Attitude change (self confidence).
- Rate-manipulation.
- Monitoring oneself.
- Length and complexity of utterance.
- Support and understanding.

is further aggravated by "a linguistic requirement. For instance, when a child starts his first words, he wants to express himself, but doesn't have enough words and structures with which to do so. The child may become under much stress that will finally lead him to stutter," added the pathologist.

Specialists indicate that there are core and secondary behaviors

he is unable to do so because of the noticeable tension that stops him from doing that.

"The secondary behaviors contain some body movements like eye-blinking, head-nodding, playing with or catching on to something tightly and even avoiding eye contact with the listener," pointed out the pathologist.

Although a stutterer, in gen-

eral, is not aware of his problem in early childhood, he starts realizing it when others pay attention to the way he speaks. If their reaction towards his stuttering is positive, it is most likely that spontaneous recovery will take place.

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EDUCATION & PARENTING

Dentists: Learn Why Children Need Fluoride

PEDIATRIC DENTISTS SUGGEST ACTIVATED CARBON



Fluoride Is Important For Developing Teeth

Dental researchers have long known that adequate amounts of fluoride in drinking water can prevent approximately 30 to 40 percent of cavities in permanent teeth. Over the past few years, as sales of bottled water have risen, pediatric dentists have begun to express concern that the absence of fluoride in many brands of bottled water could potentially contribute to an increase in cavities among patients.

"Many parents don't realize just how important it is for children to receive fluoridated water. What's more, they don't realize that many brands of bottled water do not contain fluoride," says Dr. Nowak.

The appropriate amount of fluoride is particularly important for infants and toddlers whose baby teeth are erupting. "So, if parents mix formula with bottled water that does not contain fluoride, they are depriving their child of fluoride during a very important time in the development of the teeth," explains Dr. Nowak.

Many pediatric dentists and physicians recommend that parents use filtered tap water to mix formulas. Some water filtration pitchers leave fluoride in the water while removing harmful substances that may be present in the water such as lead. To find out if a water filtration pitcher leaves fluoride in tap water, check the claims

that are listed on the packaging or talk to your dentist.

Brita's activated carbon filtration pitcher offers high-quality, great-tasting water and has been tested and verified to remove only a trace amount of fluoride over the life of the filter.

Tap Water Does Not Put One At Risk For Fluorosis

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), drinking municipally treated water does not put one at risk for dental fluorosis, a condition that can occur in children who are regularly overexposed to fluoride. Many cases of overexposure are caused when young children swallow toothpaste instead of spitting it out.

Most dental fluorosis is characterized by lacy white lines on the surface of the teeth. While fluorosis is permanent, it is not harmful to children's health. Also, according to the CDC, 94 percent of all cases are classified as mild or very mild and are only noticeable to a dental professional.

Both the AAPD and the CDC agree that parents should be reminded that fluoridated water remains the most effective method of preventing tooth decay. According to Dr. Nowak, there's a simple solution for getting healthier, great-tasting water with fluoride. "A water filtration pitcher with an activated carbon filter provides water that tastes good but leaves the fluoride in."

SOCIAL WITHDRAWAL

Children who are socially withdrawn, who do not interact with other children, often lack social competence. They may also lack social cognitive knowledge, such as how to detect the intentions of others.

A number of methods have been successful in helping shy children gain social skills and become more sociable. Placing them in situations with younger peers, small groups and/or

structured activities is sometimes helpful. Peers can be trained to help withdrawn children increase their levels of interaction. Peer encouragement and reinforcement often work better than adult interventions. When adults become involved in children's interactions, even to praise them for playing well together, child-to-child interaction tends to decline and the children direct their attention toward the adult.



THE MAGICAL MYTH ABOUT TESTS: PART THREE

(A THREE-PART SERIES ON REDEFINING AND PREPARING FOR TEST TAKING)

by Rebecca S. Carter
Al-Mashrek Int'l School

Previously, we have altered our way of thinking regarding tests and their real meaning and value. You have followed the preparation steps for reviewing and preparing yourself with the knowledge required for your exam and the day has come. This is only the beginning. Equally important, but different in characteristic, is strategy you use the day of the test.

Arrive at least 10 minutes early. This allows you to get comfortable with the room, choose a good seat and even do some relaxation and breathing exercises. Avoid discussing the test or the amount of time you studied with any of your classmates. This can only fuel your apprehension and lead to unnecessary anxiety. If you notice your thoughts are turning towards fear of failure, change your course of thought by visualizing your ultimate goal. This test is merely one small step in attaining that dream and will not alter the course of your life whatever the outcome. Breathe and relax.

As the exam is being handed out, listen carefully to any instructions given and follow them precisely. Once these directions have been given and followed, inspect the entire test paying careful attention to the importance of each segment and its point value. Utilize the time you have according to the percentage value of each section. Plan your strategy accordingly. Don't spend too much time deliberating over the answer to a question that is not worth much. You can always come back to it later.

Once you have looked over the test in its entirety, it is time to use the margins to write down information you will need and may forget such as formulas, hypotheses, or mnemonic devices that help you remember difficult information. Do not use a separate paper since this may seem like cheating. Now you are ready for your first question. Be sure you read each question carefully. One word can sometimes make all the difference in your answer.

Start by answering the questions you find easiest. This will boost your self-confidence with immediate success. You can then use these questions to assist you with the more difficult questions. You will often find information from questions that will help stimulate your memory to find the answer to some of the other questions. Look for names, dates, terms and other information that may be asked in other areas of the test. And remember, your first instinct when answering questions is usually best.

If you value your success in school, then begin planning your strategy now. It is never too early nor too late. Believing in yourself is the first step, followed by learning the skills and knowledge that can help you achieve your goals. Taking tests is one way to evaluate if you have obtained these skills and knowledge or if you need to revise further. Test-taking should not be riddled with anxiety and stress. Visualize your success, use the suggested strategy and watch the magical results you can achieve.



FEAR OF STRANGERS

Infants show a fear reaction to a stranger on some occasion between 7 and 12 months of age.

One explanation of this fear is based on the assumption that infants compare the schemata for the faces of familiar people with their perception of the stranger. If they are unable to understand the discrepancy, they become distressed. Although this distress resembles the upset shown by 3-month olds upon exposure to discrepant events, two important elements have been added to the competence of the 8-month-old.

First, recognition of the discrepancy occurs much more quickly. The older child cries within the first 20 seconds of seeing the unfamiliar adult. More important, the older child does not have to be looking at the familiar person in order to become uncertain. The 8-month-old compares the stranger with her retrieved schema of the familiar person, when she cannot assimilate the former to the latter, she becomes uncertain and may cry.

One of the most common fears of the last part of the first year is stranger anxiety. An 8-month old is showing stranger anxiety when she wrinkles her face as a stranger approaches, looks back and forth between the stranger and her mother and after a few seconds begins to cry. Children do not always react to a stranger with fear. The fear is least likely to occur if the stranger approaches slowly, talks gently and initiates play with the child. It is most likely if the stranger walks toward the child quickly, is quiet or very loud and attempts to pick up the child. Although some children are more fearful than others, almost all

DEAR READER: Cirrhosis simply means scarring of the liver. It is a dangerous affliction that can result from a variety of agents, including viral hepatitis and damaging reactions from toxic chemicals. In the United States, most cirrhosis is the end result of alcohol abuse. Inasmuch as your mother is not a drinker, the cause of her cirrhosis is unclear. In my opinion, she should be examined and tested by a gastroenterologist who specializes in liver disorders. Although your mother's cirrhosis is permanent and incurable, she needs a specific diagnosis so that further, life-threatening damage can be avoided.

THE DIGITAL CAMERA ERA NOW AT A DESKTOP NEAR YOU

They all thought Francis Coppola had gone a bit wacky when he offered this vision of the future of cinema: "For me the great hope is that now these little 8mm video recorders are around and people who normally wouldn't make movies are going to be making them, and suddenly, one day, some little fat girl in Ohio is going to be the new Mozart and make a beautiful film with her father's camcorder and the so-called professionalism about movies will be destroyed forever."

That was a decade ago. But who's laughing now? The revolution he foresaw, facilitated by the increasing power of desktop computers and the rise of affordable digital (DV) camcorders, is underway. Dubbed the "microcinema movement," it's the biggest technological change in moviemaking since the arrival of lightweight 16mm cameras in the '50s and '60s, which made possible the New Wave and cinema verite. Digital video-fed from your camcorder into your home computer, where you can edit it, jazz it up with spinning titles and special effects, then convert the finished product onto videotape or send it onto the Web for public consumption—is democratizing filmmaking, creating a nation of do-it-yourself auteurs.

There are now 8-year-old schoolkids who think it's normal to make a movie for a school assignment. Home movies have reached new levels of sophistication: Carter Swenson, working on his \$1,800 system in the basement of his home near Washington, D.C., tapes his twin daughters in front of a blue screen, then replaces the background with the music video of their choice. Volle, personalized MTV "They get to dance with the Spice Girls whenever they want," says Swenson.

Hobbyists use such software packages as MGI's VideoWave II (street price, \$99; PC only), Avid's Avid Cinema (PC, \$85; Mac, \$104)

and Ulead's VideoStudio (\$99; PC only). You'll need a 166MHz computer at least, with a lot of hard-drive space, as well as a video-capture card. A few packages include both hardware and software: Dazzle's Digital Video Creator (\$249; PC only), Omega's Buz (PC, \$199; Mac, \$299) and Matrox's MarvelG200-TV (\$299; PC only). If you want what it takes to approximate the capabilities of a movie studio, there's Adobe's Premiere (\$589; PC and Mac) and Ulead's MediaStudio Pro (\$449; PC only). Camera prices range from \$400 for a low-end, conventional videocam to \$3,699 for such "prosumer"-level digital cameras as the much-loved Canon XL1. The computer industry, of course, is pushing the new video trends: it wants consumers to buy newer, faster and more expensive machines.

Just as desktop publishing transformed the way magazines, books and newspapers were put together and distributed, the desktop video revolution is inspiring filmmakers—professional as well as amateur—to think different. When people look back at the seminal movie of 1998, it may not be "Saving Private Ryan" but the Danish birthday-party-from-hell drama "The Celebration." Not because it won the New York and L.A. Film Critics awards for best foreign film but because it was shot on a Sony PC7, a consumer digital video camera. No theatrical lighting or special effects were used; only a small crew was necessary, and the budget was pennypinching. "The Celebration" is the "Birth of a Nation" of digital movies," says Peter Broderick, who as president of NextWave Films is financing extremely low-budget digital films.

Where the computer chips will fall is anyone's guess, but there is definitely a movement afoot. Indie auteurs such as Hal Hartley, John

McNaughton and John Jost have all shot on DV. Variety called digital filmmaking "the hottest topic among young filmmakers" at January's Sundance Film Festival. Two touring shows—D.Film (a 90-minute compilation of short films and excerpts) and ResFest have traveled the world, attracting fans and converts, as well as talent scouts from places like MTV and Showtime. One novice, inspired by what he saw at D.Film, taught himself computers, submitted a film to the festival and now works as a lead designer at MTV networks. "You don't have to be an assistant to an editor for five years before you get your chance anymore," says D.Film's Bart Cheever. "You can cut right to the front of the line."

The acclaimed documentary "The Cruise," about a brilliantly eccentric New York City tour

guide, was shot digitally, and edited on a computer in filmmaker Bennett Miller's living room. The fact that these cameras are so small and unobtrusive has obvious benefits for a stealth-conscious documentary filmmaker; people hardly noticed he was filming. "The Cruise" cost only \$140,000 to make, \$58,000 of which was just for the transfer from video to film. Soon, even that expense won't be necessary. Digital-video projectors will be in place in theaters, satellites will be pumping digital movies through the skies and films will be distributed via high-speed "broadband" cable hookups to the Internet. In the last few weeks, two Web sites—Film.net and Atomfilms.com—debuted, showing independent films and shorts.

As the line between amateur and professional blurs, it suddenly seems as if everybody is getting in touch with his inner Capra. Why? Because now they can afford to. Fifty-year-old video hobbyist Jerry Anderson put together a zippy,

near-pro-level system: a Miro DC30 Plus Capture Card, Adobe Premiere and a 400-MHz Pentium computer with 18 gigabytes of hard-disk space for \$3,500. Anderson proved so dexterous with his new technology that he got signed up to make a video for Habitat for Humanity. Once you have your hardware and software in place, further expenses can be minimal. Last year Pennsylvania filmmaker Lance Weller and Stefan Avalos released a feature-length murder mystery called "The Last Broadcast." Shot on a budget of \$900, it may be the cheapest feature ever made.

Even tots are getting into the act. In Concord, Mass., Susan Zellmann-Rohrer donates Avid Cinema to local schools and institutions, and works with students from kindergarten to fifth grade to make little movies. Her goal is to help students attain visual literacy. "It's the word processor of the turn of the millennium," she says.

There is, to be sure, something scary about the sheer volume of movies the new technology is unleashing. "Access to tools doesn't guarantee talent," understates Nick DeMartino of the American Film Institute. Director Rob Nilsson, a pioneer in video filmmaking (1987's "Heat and Sunlight"), puts it even more directly: "The amount of trash that'll be made is immense." That fat girl in Ohio may be Mozart, but we'll be lucky if she's Sallier—or even good enough to make it onto "America's Funniest Home Videos." And who's going to sort through the tidal wave of cassettes and DVDs that will swamp film festivals, film schools and film companies in the future? In the brave new world of desktop filmmaking, every wanna-be Spielberg, every teen Tarantino, can step up to the plate for a swing at glory. But with so many people making movies, will anyone be left to watch them?

By DAVID ANSEN and RAY SAWHILL

PLAY IT YOUR WAY

NOW YOU CAN RUN PLAYSTATION GAMES ON YOUR MACINTOSH. BUT SONY STANDING STILL FOR IT

For years the bane of the Macintosh faithful has been a depressing lack of games. Then in January, the Connectix company announced a startling short-cut: a program that actually allowed the latest Macs to run Sony PlayStation games. Cowabunga! Entertainment-starved Mac owners had heart palpitations pondering two key questions: Does it work? And would Sony-known for protecting its property rights—claim foul, and get the courts to stop distribution of the Virtual Game Station?

Sony did object, but while the matter is in court a federal judge is allowing consumers to buy the \$49 software package. As to whether the program works, the answer is yes, surprisingly well.

NEWSWEEK tested the Virtual Game Station on a spanking-new 400MHz G3, and our game testers were delighted that once the program was installed (a process requiring a mere two mouseclicks), simply inserting a PlayStation disc into the CD-ROM drive would boot up the game just as if the Mac were a Sony unit. There was a problem with the controls—we were unable to get two Gravis GamePad Pro USBs working together (a Connectix technician said the company was working on a fix). But the keyboard control was adequate. Connectix is careful to note that not all PlayStation games work on

its system. We found that NCAA Final Four '99, Future Cop and Street Skier all behaved quite acceptably; heck, they rocked-though it was a bit strange playing the games at a desktop instead of the preferred position: sprawled out in front of the living-room couch. And kibitzers judged that the graphics didn't look as sharp as they did with a Sony PlayStation-TV combo.

Which leads to another question: why even bother tying up your spiffy four-figure Macintosh when for \$80 more than the Connectix software you can buy an original PlayStation and be assured that every game works? This solution will seem even more compelling when Sony ships its next-generation PlayStation, announced last week. This unit will be considerably more powerful; running on a 300MHz "Emotion Engine" (Sony's coinage), it can calculate faster than a Pentium III, run graphics like an expensive workstation, churn out CD-level sound and may even play DVD movies. Industry analysts are breathlessly proclaiming it a breakthrough. Game nuts are already counting the days until its autumn 2000 U.S. release.

Meanwhile, Mac gamers can take solace: the popularity and power of the iMac is luring more game developers back to the Apple camp. Have you seen Myth II? Awesome.

By STEVEN LEVY

After the net came to town: A LOOK AT HOW 3-HOBBYISTS ARE TRYING TO MAKE MONEY

When e-mail first made its way here to Jordan in late 1995, the country's first "bunko" thought that NETS, a bulletin board service, was the Internet. And when Global One launched in March the following year, not much changed. Who would pay JOD 6 per-hour?

"We thought NETS was everything. I knew that the world wide web was out there," says Laith Zreikat, a 20-year-old student of medicine at the University of Jordan (UJ). "I just didn't know what it looked like."

His school time friend on the other hand did. Omar Kudsi, now studying business and marketing at Brigham Young University in the United States, was among those people who first logged onto the web in Jordan in early 1995 before NETS even came into service.

Back then the National Information Center was still trying to explain what the Internet was, let alone what it could offer. According to school chum Zreikat, "Omar would actually dial International to the United States from his home to see what the Internet actually looked like."

But it was not until the summer of 1997 that Zreikat and Kudsi actually had a chance to experience the Internet on the same level.

That summer as three new upstart Internet Service Providers (ISPs) — Index, NETS and FirstNet — joined Global One, competition subsequently dropped prices allowing more people to experience the web.

In his earliest adventure with the web, Zreikat says "the first thing that caught my and Omar's attention was GeoCities." GeoCities — www.geocities.com — was among the first sites to start offering free hosting on the Internet. "Unfortunately, at first we were not able to grasp the significance of GeoCities," Zreikat says. "The word FTP would give me the fits." FTP or File Transfer Protocol is how Internet hosting companies upload whole homepages made up of text, pictures, sounds and even videos to web sites.

"I had no knowledge of HTML and I thought shame on you, you call yourself a designer," quips Zreikat, who is an accomplished graphic designer.

"But I wanted to learn," he

It was not long before Zreikat's knowledge of Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML), which is used to form web pages, expanded.

"It took me about two weeks to get the hang of HTML and the first thing I thought of was having my own place, a homepage, on the web," reminisces Zreikat.

Zreikat and Kudsi, meanwhile, were more interested in what the



web had to offer commercially. "We always think of Amazon.com as a prototype for what we have in mind," says Zreikat. Amazon.com was the

father because, although I tried, I just wasn't able to save it up and I was afraid of losing the domain," Zreikat says nostalgically.

After the domain registration, the pair started looking for ways of funding themselves. "At the start, me and Omar estimated that we needed at least JOD 2,000 for the first two months,"



says Zreikat. "We couldn't get the money off our parents," he adds. JordanMail's first JOD 1,000 came from a project that Zreikat landed

"The first thing that came to mind was free hosting, free e-mail and free marketing know-how," says Zreikat.

"Making money on the Internet is all about generating traffic," he notes. Yet it is not as easy as it sounds, according to Milyar. "My major concern nowadays,



when I approach a client is Internet awareness," he points out. "You have to educate your client on not just what the

'WE WANT TO SHOW PEOPLE THAT BUILDING A WEB SITE DOES NOT REQUIRE A ROCKET SCIENTIST'

Internet's first online bookstore and has now become a trademark name in the United States mainly, as well as the rest of the world, when people think of buying a book from the web.

But the school chums did not actually start considering any money making schemes till last summer, when Kudsi came back for a holiday from his studies in the U.S.

"We started seriously talking about on-line shopping," Zreikat recalls. "We bought books, we browsed hundreds of sites, we conducted research, we did feasibility studies, we did our homework."

That enthusiasm poured into their website. Last summer — JordanMail — available for view at www.jordanmail.com. "My start up was \$70 for the domain and \$25 for the disk space, which I borrowed from my

with a company that needed a graphic designer to do its brochures.

That first JOD 1,000 was used to lease hard disk space on a server in the United States, according to Zreikat.

"After that we knew that we would need more people to work on our site," says Zreikat. Rakan Milyar, an old school friend, currently study civil engineering at UJ. Joined them. Nowadays, Kudsi does the research and development in the U.S. Zreikat handles designs and Milyar takes care of the company's customers.

"We chose Rakan because we knew he was motivated and creative," says Zreikat.

The trio brainstormed on what they could offer more than current incumbents — like Access2Arabic — and Business Optimization Consultants BOC in the Jordanian market.

Internet has to offer, but how it actually works, how to update the site, how to add features on it... etc," underlines Milyar.

"Handing out knowledge and

According to Zreikat, the trio

know-how saves us lots of headaches in the long run like clients calling us up to come over and setup their e-mail account on a different kind of browser and it also creates Internet awareness, thereby opening up the market for us," adds Zreikat.

"We want to show people that building a web site does not require a rocket scientist." The trio have bigger plans, as they hope to build up a database of contacts that they will be able to partner with by offering their marketing and sales services.

"We always profile our clients so that we know what will interest them and so that we are able to recognize potential opportunities that they would be interested in," says Milyar.

To date, the trio have been partially successful due to their prudence and expect to have a full fledged Internet store by the end of this year. "The first month we launched, we got an offer from a firm in the US to host a banner on our site," says Zreikat.

"But because we did not have a proper advertising price system and ways of monitoring how many hits and click throughs we got, we didn't want to cheat them, we put their offer on hold and asked them to wait," he adds.

In general, web advertising is priced according to how many hits a site receives, while another factor is the current move towards intelligent advertising, whereby a certain word like "car" on a search engine like "Hotbot" is accompanied with an ad for "Ford."

By AHMED NASER Technology Correspondent

JordanMail

About / Services / Guest / Members / Free Commercial / Free

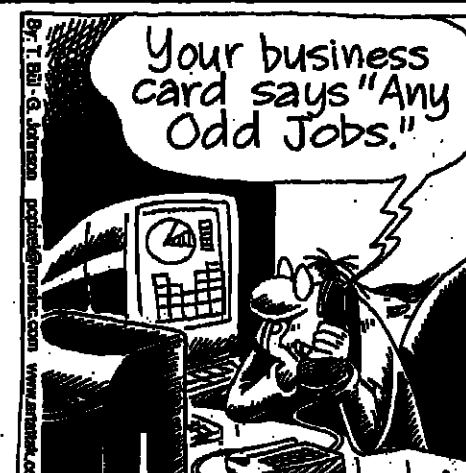
Register / Area / Web Sites / E-mail

Shop Categories:

- Jordan Shops
- Travel Center
- Community
- Jordan Neighborhoods
- Computer Zone
- NEWS Board
- Art & Media Projects, Books
- Business Equipments, Opportunities
- Electronics, Appliances, Audio/Video
- Fashion: Clothes, Jewelry
- Automotive Audio, Purses
- Computers Hardware, Software
- Entertainment & Leisure Music, Videos, Hobbies
- Food & Beverages Restaurants, Snacks

NEW MEMBERS OF JordanMail

At the Jordanian...
Interior Design, Architecture, and Landscaping
In Jordanian...
Manufacturers of Spices, Spices, and Special...
Manufactured in Jordan...
Specialty, heavy machinery, Diesel and Turbine...



22 SATELLITE LISTINGS

07:00 Market Watch
11:00 Europe Today
10:00 Market Watch
15:00 US CNBC Squawk Box
17:00 US Market Watch
19:00 Europe Tonight
20:30 US Power Lunch
21:00 US Street Signs
23:00 US Market Wrap
00:00 Europe Tonight(r)
01:30 NBC Nightly News
02:00 CNBC Asia Squawk Box
03:30 US Market Wrap
04:00 Trading Day
06:00 US Business Centre(r)
06:30 Lunch Money

00:00 One Week In India: Gulf of the Monsoon
01:00 Today
02:00 NBC Nightly News
03:30 Ghost of Madagascar
04:00 Mixed Stand: In The Footsteps of Crusoe
04:30 Out of The Stone Age
05:00 Mysteries of Manikind
06:00 Lord of the Everglades
07:00 Pantanal: Brazil's Forgotten Wilderness
08:00 Tiger of the Snow
09:00 Life on the Line
09:30 = Race for the Polo
10:00 Secret Life of Cats
11:00 Wild Tiger of the Snow
12:00 An African Love Story
13:00 Birds of Japan
13:30 Family Hour: Bush Babies
14:00 Wild Kiwi: A Natural History
15:00 Pantanal: Brazil's Forgotten Wilderness
16:00 Sinking of the Lusitania
17:00 Wandering Warrior
18:00 Kiwi: A Natural History
19:00 Pantanal: Brazil's Forgotten Wilderness
20:00 Sinking of the Lusitania
21:00 Wandering Warrior
22:00 An African Love Story
23:00 Family Hour: Bush Babies
23:00 The Living Laboratory

07:00 News
11:15 Style
11:45 International
12:15 Globus
12:45 No Comment
13:15 Cinema
13:45 Europeans
14:15 2000
14:45 Cult
15:15 Style
15:45 International
16:15 Globus
16:45 International
17:15 Cinema
17:45 Visa
18:15 Europeans
18:45 International
19:15 Style
19:45 International
20:15 News & Analysis
21:45 International
23:00 News & Analysis
23:45 Cult
00:00 News & Analysis
00:45 No Comment
01:00 News & Analysis
01:45 2000
02:15 Visa
02:45 Parlamento
03:00 End

01:00 Journal-With Top Story
01:30 The End of The Odyssey
02:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
02:30 Politik Aktuell-Das Politikmagazin
03:00 Journal-Con Tema Del Dia
03:30 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
04:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
04:30 Nahaufnahme
05:00 Journal-With Top Story
05:30 Tomorrow Today-Millennium Magazine
06:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
06:30 Deutschland Heute
07:00 Journal-With Top Story
07:30 The End of The Odyssey
08:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
08:30 Politik Aktuell-Das Politikmagazin
09:00 Journal-With Top Story
09:30 Germany Today
10:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
10:30 Nahaufnahme
11:00 Journal-With Top Story
11:30 Tomorrow Today-Millennium Magazine
12:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
12:30 Deutschland Heute
13:00 Journal-With Top Story
13:30 The End of The Odyssey
14:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
14:30 Politik Aktuell-Das Politikmagazin
15:00 Journal-With Top Story
15:30 Germany Today
16:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
16:30 100 Deutsche Jahre
17:00 Journal-With Top Story
17:30 Tomorrow Today-Millennium Magazine
18:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
18:30 Deutschland Heute
19:00 Journal-With Top Story
19:30 Close-Up
20:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
20:30 Auto Motor und Sport TV
21:00 Journal-With Top Story
21:30 Germany Today
22:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
22:30 100 Deutsche Jahre
23:00 Journal-With Top Story
23:30 People and Politics
00:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
00:30 Deutschland Heute

07:00 Journal TV5
07:15 Gourmandises
07:30 Telematin
08:00 TV5 Minutes et météo
08:15 Journal de Radio-Canada
08:30 4 et Demi
09:00 TV5 Minutes
09:05 Au Delà Des Apparences
11:00 TV5 Minutes
11:05 Cent Tires
11:30 Habitat Traditionnel
12:00 TV5 Minutes
12:05 Zig Zag Café
12:45 Gourmandises
13:00 TV5 Minutes
13:05 Voila Paris
13:30 Journal de France 3
14:00 Orange D'été
15:30 Teleshema
16:00 Journal International TV5
16:15 L'hebdo
17:15 Pyramide
17:45 Bus et Compagnie
18:30 TV5 Minutes
18:35 Jeu
19:00 Questions pour un Champion
19:30 Journal TV5
20:00 Voila Paris
20:27 Un Live Un Jour
20:30 Journal de la TSR
21:00 Temps Présent
22:00 Le Point
23:00 Journal de France Télévision
23:30 Bouillon De Culture
01:00 Viva
01:25 Météo Internationale
01:30 Journal de France 3
02:00 Journal de la RTBF
02:30 Le Cercle De Minuit
03:45 Au Delà des Apparences
04:30 Habitat Traditionnel

08:30 Cross-Country
11:00 Skiing
12:30 Alpine Skiing
13:30 Football
14:00 Tennis
17:30 Football
18:00 Live Ski Jumping: World cup
18:45 Live Tennis WTA Tournament
19:00 Live Tennis ATP Tourment in India Wells, USA
22:00 Live Tennis: ATP Tourment in India Wells, USA
00:00 Boxing
01:00 Golf
02:00 Sid Jump
02:30 Close

02:00 BBC World News
02:30 World Living: Earth Report
03:00 BBC World News
03:30 Asia Today
03:45 World Business Report
04:00 BBC World News
04:30 Asia Today
04:45 World Business Report
05:00 BBC World News
05:30 Asia Today
05:45 World Business Report
06:00 BBC World News
06:30 USA Direct
07:00 BBC World News
07:30 World Focus
08:00 BBC World News
08:30 World Living
09:00 BBC World News
09:30 Hard Talk
10:00 BBC World News
10:30 World Focus
11:00 BBC World News
11:30 Hard Talk
12:00 BBC World News
12:30 World Living
13:00 The World Today
14:00 The World Today
14:30 Wild World
15:00 BBC World News
15:15 World Business Report
15:30 The World Today
16:30 World Living
17:00 BBC World News
17:30 Hard Talk
18:00 BBC World News
18:30 Out Of India
19:00 BBC World News
19:30 World Living
20:00 The World Today
21:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk
22:00 BBC World News

02:30 John Larroquette
02:55 Larry Sanders
03:25 Married With Children
03:50 Homicide: Life On The Streets
04:40 One Life To Live
05:30 General Hospital
06:20 Sunset Beach
07:10 Houston Knights
07:35 Designing Women
08:00 I Married Dora

08:25 Daddy Dearest
08:50 The Charmings
09:05 Silver Spoons
09:40 Houston Knights
10:30 Family Matters
10:55 One Life To Live
11:45 General Hospital
12:35 Sunset Beach
13:25 Port Charles
13:40 Designing Women
14:15 I Married Dora
14:40 Daddy Dearest
15:05 The Charmings
15:30 Silver Spoons
15:55 Houston Knights
16:45 Family Matters
17:10 Minor Adjustments
17:35 Step By Step
18:00 New Adventure Of Robin Hood
19:00 The Closer
19:30 Newsradio
20:00 Charmed
21:00 C-16: FBI
22:00 John Larroquette
22:30 Larry Sanders
23:00 FX The Series
00:00 Martin
00:25 Malcolm And Eddie
00:50 Early Edition
01:40 Melrose Place

04:00 The Telegraphist
08:00 Over the Hill
08:00 Rain Man
10:00 Beetlejuice
12:00 Blown Away
14:00 Tequila Sunrise
15:00 Big Night
18:00 Fied
20:00 John Sanford's Mind Prey
22:00 Head Above Water
00:00 Scenes from the Class
Struggle in Beverly Hills
02:00 Head Above Water

04:30 Crook & Chase
05:30 Judge Judy
06:00 El In Focus
07:00 Jeopardy(r)
07:30 Wheel Of Fortune
08:00 Hollywood Squares
08:30 Sally Jessy Raphael
09:30 El Uncont
10:00 The Roseanne Show
11:00 Sunshin Cuisine
11:30 Cooking Secrets Of The CIA
12:00 El News Daily
12:30 El FYE
13:00 Regis And Kathy Lee
14:00 El Behind The Scenes
14:30 Movie TV
15:00 Travel Update
15:30 The View
16:30 Main Floor
17:00 The Roseanne Show
18:00 Jeopardy
18:30 Wheel Of Fortune
19:00 Hollywood Squares
19:30 Judge Judy
20:00 El On Style
21:00 The Best Of Extreme Close Up
21:30 El Q & E
22:00 Main Floor
22:30 Late Show With David Letterman
23:30 El News Daily(r)
00:00 Jerry Springer
01:00 The View(r)

01:00 Sharky's Machine
03:00 Freddie And The Bean
05:00 Bananas
07:00 The Sunshine Boys
08:00 Days of Wine and Roses
11:00 How to succeed without Really Trying
13:00 The Goodbye Girl
15:00 Rocky
17:00 The Manchurian Candidate
19:00 The Curse of the Pink Panther
21:00 Night Moves
23:00 Blazing Saddles

02:00 Lost Civilizations
03:00 Truema
04:00 Discovery Profiles Series
05:00 Go For It!
06:00 Ushuaia
07:00 The New Explorers
08:00 Travelers
09:00 Lonely Planet
10:00 Intimate Escape
10:30 Intimate Escape
11:00 Eyewitness
11:30 Spalte
12:00 Go For It!
13:00 The New Explorers
14:00 Travelers
15:00 Intimate Escape
16:00 Intimate Escape
18:00 Ushuaia
19:00 Lonely Planet
18:00 The Shark Files
19:00 ESPU
19:30 Eyewitness
20:00 Protrails
21:00 Equinox
22:00 Discovery Profile Series
23:00 Go For It!
00:00 Lonely Planet
01:00 ESPU
01:30 Eyewitness

03:00 The Grind
03:30 Night Videos
07:00 Kickstart
08:00 Top Selection
09:00 Kickstart
10:00 Non Stop Hits
13:00 MTV Data Video
14:00 Non Stop Hits
17:00 Select MTV
19:00 The Lick
20:00 So 80's
21:00 Top Selection
22:00 MTV Data Video
23:00 Amot
00:00 MTV ID
01:00 Alternative Nation

04:00 The Secret World Of Alex Mack
04:30 Mowgli
05:00 Mighty Max
05:30 Rocko's Modern Life
06:00 Real Monsters
06:30 Doug
07:00 Arthur
07:30 Wimpz's House
08:00 Blues Clues
08:30 The Busy World Of Richard Scarry
09:00 Mr Men
09:05 Mr Men
09:10 Mr Men
09:15 Magio Mountain
09:30 The Digswell Dog Show
09:45 Little Hippo
10:00 Arthur
10:30 Hey Arnold
11:00 The Wild Thornberrys
11:30 Rugrats
12:00 Kenan & Kel
12:30 The Secret World Of Alex Mack
13:00 Doug
13:30 Rocko's Modern Life
14:00 Real Monsters
14:30 Hey Arnold
15:00 Rugrats
15:30 The Wild Thornberrys
16:00 Kenan & Kel
16:30 Mowgli

02:00 Bad Moon
04:00 Mommie Dearest
06:00 Kuffs
08:00 The Guns of Naverone
10:30 Beverly Hills Cop 3
12:30 Benji
14:00 Fly Away Home
16:00 Night of the Generals
18:30 Picture Bride
20:00 Inside Hollywood
20:30 New Bad day on The Block
22:30 Stolen Hearts
00:30 Black Rain

02:00 Star Trek: The Next Generation
03:00 Silk Stalking
04:00 Trazan
05:30 Pacific Bule
06:30 Acapulco Heat
07:30 Water Flats
08:30 Inside Edition
09:00 Pacific Blue
10:00 Early Edition
11:00 Real TV
11:30 Acapulco Heat
12:30 Inside Edition
13:00 Pensacola
14:00 Pacific Blue
15:00 FBI Factor
16:00 Star Trek: The Next Generation
17:00 Early Edition
18:00 Real TV
18:30 Water Flats
19:30 Cupid
20:30 Paradox
21:30 Silk Stalking
22:30 The Premier Match
00:30 Power & Jelpout World 1999 Series
01:00 Acapulco Heat

02:00 Premiere: VHI Country
03:00 American Class
04:00 VHI Late Shift
05:00 Power Breakfast
10:00 Pop-Up Video
11:00 VHI Upbeat
14:00 Premiere: Ten Of The Best
15:00 Premiere: Greatest Hits
15:18 Pop-Up Video
16:00 Jukebox
18:18 VHI To 1: Duran Duran
19:00 Five @ Five
19:18 Pop-Up Video
20:00 Happy Hour With Cam Grogan
21:00 VHI Hits
23:00 Bob Miller's Big 80's
00:00 Behind the Music: Bly Joel
01:00 VHI Spice

12:00 Home Video
13:15 Moon Lighting
14:00 Automobile
14:30 Signs Future
16:30 Maple Town
17:00 Cartoons
18:00 Fanelli Boys
18:30 Studio Sud
23:30 Crosswinds

06:00 Arabic Vedio-Clips
07:00 Yan Can Cook
14:00 Flash News/Live
15:15 Tele-Auto
16:15 Pino
20:00 News
23:30 Movie-House Party

07:30 Local News
07:35 Perspectives
08:00 Link with Ch.1 for the News
08:30 Program about His Majesty Late King Hussein
09:00 Islamic History in Jordan
10:00 News at Ten
10:15 National Geographic
11:00 Link with Ch.1 for the News in Arabic

March 9, 1999 — THE ARAB DAILY

THE ARAB DAILY — MARCH 9, 1999

BORN TODAY

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1999
 By Stella Wilder

Born today, you are adept at playing the supporting role, and the contentment you enjoy by lending your assistance time and time again to the "leading players" can very well be lifelong. Do not think, however, that you are never to come to the forefront and enjoy basking in the spotlight. Remember, if you play your cards right, you're only a step or two away from the top at any given time, and it only takes one slight twist of fate to send you soaring to the heights of notoriety. You are confident of your abilities, and comfortable with your character — you would do well in politics! Knowledgeable in a great number of fields, you thrive on the kind of day to day learning that a busy and creative life has to offer. Never satisfied with the "status-quo," you prefer to work for change that will open new doors for yourself and others no matter how subtle.

Also born on this date are: Raul Julia, actor; Bobby Fischer, chess player; Jeffrey Osborne, singer.

H O R O S C O P E S

PISCES

(Feb. 19-March 20):

You must make up your mind to work with nature and unnatural forces, both which you cannot control today. Be flexible, move forward, and adapt to change.

ARIES

(March 21-April 19):

You'll have to change your plans today, but you can remain true to your own primary intentions. Don't get swept up in an emotional whirlwind!

TAURUS

(April 20-May 20):

You'll have the energy and the determination to take on more than required today. Even critics will be impressed by your performance at this time.

GEMINI

(May 21-June 21):

Take a chance today and you'll be able to broaden your horizons, enjoy increased potential, and maximized rewards. Don't hold back!

CANCER

(June 22-July 22):

Your generosity will be more than appreciated today, but you must not be too quick to ask for favors in return. Adopt a soft-spoken approach.

LEO

(July 23-Aug. 22):

You may feel as though you're repeating yourself today, and indeed you do have the opportunity to correct minor errors made in the recent past.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):

You may be engaging in a social "crashshoot" without knowing it today. Take precautions when you can, and be willing to "wing it."

LIBRA

(Sept. 23-Oct. 23):

Others are likely to call on you to entertain today, especially when the going gets rough. Trust your sense of humor to see you through.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24-Nov. 21):

You won't be racing the clock so much as your own hefty expectations today. It's time to re-evaluate because you're not really working with yourself as best you can.

SAGITTARIUS CAPRICORN

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):

Your creative input will be appreciated on the job, but that is not a license to speak your mind at all times. Know when to keep quiet!

AQUARIUS

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):

You and a partner or co-worker are not likely to agree on the methods required to get the job done today. If possible, a compromise is in order.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):

Now is not the time to "save the best for last." You may not get everything today if you wait too long and let your schedule become overly full.

FORBES MAGAZINE'S LIST OF THE TOP 50 HIGHEST-EARNING CELEBRITIES

1. Jerry Seinfeld, comedian, producer, \$267 million	26. Bonnie & Terry Turner, writer, director, \$45 million
2. Larry David, writer, director, \$242 million	27. Tom Hanks, actor, director, producer, \$44 million
3. Steven Spielberg, director, producer, \$175 million	28. Danny Jacobson, writer, director, \$42 million
4. Oprah Winfrey, TV show host, actress, producer, \$125 million	29. Kevin Costner, actor, director, producer, \$41 million
5. James Cameron, director, \$115 million	30. Bright/Kaufman/Crane, TV producers, \$40.5 million
6. Tim Allen, actor, \$77 million	31. Brad Pitt, actor, \$40 million
7. Michael Jordan, basketball player, \$69 million	32. Stephen King, writer, director, \$40 million
8. Michael Crichton, writer, director, \$65 million	33. Nicolas Cage, actor, \$38 million
9. Harrison Ford, actor, \$58 million	34. Bruce Helford, writer, director, \$38 million
10. Rolling Stones, rock group, \$57 million	35. Michael Schumacher, race car driver, \$38 million
11. Master P, music producer, \$56.5 million	36. Leonardo DiCaprio, actor, \$37 million
12. Robin Williams, actor, \$56 million	37. John Wells, writer, director, \$35 million
13. Celine Dion, singer, \$55.5 million	38. Will Smith, singer, actor, \$34 million
14. Mel Gibson, actor, director, producer, \$55 million	39. Jim Carrey, actor, \$32.5 million
15. Garth Brooks, singer, \$54 million	40. Metallica, rock group, \$32 million
16. Sean "Puffy" Combs, music producer, \$53.5 million	41. Helen Hunt, actress, \$31 million
17. Greg Daniels, writer, director, \$53 million	42. Dave Matthews Band, music group, \$30 million
18. Mike Judge, writer, director, \$52 million	43. Sergei Fedorov, hockey player, \$29.8 million
19. Chris Carter, writer, director, producer, \$49.5 million	44. Tiger Woods, golfer, \$26.8 million
20. David Copperfield, illusionist, \$49 million	45. Brian Grazer, writer, director, \$26 million
21. Spice Girls, singers, \$48 million	46. Dale Earnhardt, race car driver, \$24.1 million
22. Paul Reuber, actor, writer, director, \$47.5 million	47. Jerry Bruckheimer, director, producer, \$22 million
23. Eddie Murphy, actor, \$47 million	48. Grant Hill, basketball player, \$21.6 million
24. John Travolta, actor, \$45.5 million	49. Howard Stern, TV and radio host, \$20 million
25. Drew Carey, actor, \$45.5 million	50. Oscar de la Hoya, boxer, \$18.5 million

ENTERTAINMENT 23

CASPER MIAZ GARY DILLON: NEW STYLER



THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY
 3:30/6:30/8:30

STANLEY KUBRICK, CINEMA ICON, DIES AT 70

The Guardian
THE ARAB DAILY
the same day

Stanley Kubrick, who died early during Saturday night aged 70, was one of the greatest of post-war film-makers and one of the most controversial. The American-born director was also one of the most reclusive, living in a mansion in St Albans, north of London, and never leaving it except to make films.

For at least half of his career he fought and beat Hollywood, getting its money to make his expensive films but only on condition that no one interfered with him or them in any way. His power thus became greater than any of his contemporaries and most of the great film-

makers of the past.

His latest film is a case in point. In his contract for *Eyes Wide Shut*, which has cost \$60 million, he had the option that it would never be released if he did not like it.

He had spent the last two years making the film with Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman. It is said to be still incomplete, although there has been almost total secrecy surrounding its subject matter and its making.

The secrecy was part and parcel of the almost magical appeal of Kubrick who lived in a house full of information about the world, with a mass of cable channels and access to all types of media, and then stepped outside to film his often brilliant comments upon it.

It is likely that *Eyes Wide Shut*, taken from a minor work by Arthur Schnitzler, will be one of the most

controversial he has ever made, with copious sex scenes, including an orgy sequence in a private West End Club. It is said to be about two psychiatrists with some of the sexual problems of those they treat.

Kubrick, of course, was no stranger to controversy, having made *Clockwork Orange* in Britain in 1971. That film, based on an Anthony Burgess novel, and about the endemic violence running underneath so-called civilized society, was passed by the censor but hooked out of release by Kubrick himself because he thought the British, and particularly the British press, had mistaken its pessimistic message and proclaimed it as glorifying violence.

To this day, only the National Film Theatre and a few other venues can show the film - widely seen abroad - and then only to an audience prepared to treat it seriously.

There is absolutely no doubt that Kubrick had a misanthropic vision of the world and many of his films prized out the worm in the bud of

both society and the individuals who formed part of it. But as an acutely intelligent and sensitive filmmaker, who was also an utter perfectionist, making take after take of the simplest shots, he had more to say than the opinion that the world was askew.

He was a moralist at heart and wanted to do his bit to change it.

Many of his films are already on the lists of cinema classics not just because they are brilliantly made but because they had something pertinent to say. *Paths of Glory* was one of the finest ever made about the waste and essential hypocrisy of war. *Dr. Strangelove* was an unbearable satire about the absurdities of the Cold War and 2001, *A Space Odyssey* was an ultimately hopeful space epic about the way technology might in the end be defeated by human rather than mechanical values.

Kubrick vowed that he would never make films without total control again after the experience of taking over *Spartacus* from Anthony

Mann and dealing with the demands of Kirk Douglas, its star and co-producer. Even so, that film has always been dubbed the thinking man's epic - the story of a failed slave rebellion against the might of Rome made at the height of the American Civil Rights movement.

His next film after that was an adaptation of Nabokov's *Invitation of a Beethoven* which he made into something of a tragedy largely because there was no way, in the early Sixties, that he could get his openly sexual subject matter onto the screen. James Mason and Peter Sellers starred in the film and have seldom given better performances.

Kubrick was one of the very few serious, thinking film-makers who could still manufacture a hit with the public all over the world - witness *The Shining*, which gave Jack Nicholson one of his most famous parts. His films could thus be considered art movies and commercial prospects at the same time.

His detractors have complained that his search for total perfection

led him into artistic cul-de-sacs of his own making, that he was an essentially cold film-maker - brilliant but unable to stir the emotions properly.

There is some point to that. For can anyone see the world clearly from a vantage point inside an admittedly well equipped St Albans mansion? Yet he was clearly a master of his craft and a filmmaker of enormous achievement. He knew the business of film-making from the ground up, and could argue with technicians, actors and even the suits of Hollywood on their own terms. He was, in fact, unique and, although it's a cliché to say so, we will almost certainly never see his like again.

Kubrick's 10 feature films in 31 years earned nine Oscars.

He leaves behind his third wife, Christine, and three daughters. Police said there were no suspicious circumstances about the death.

By Derek Malcolm in London

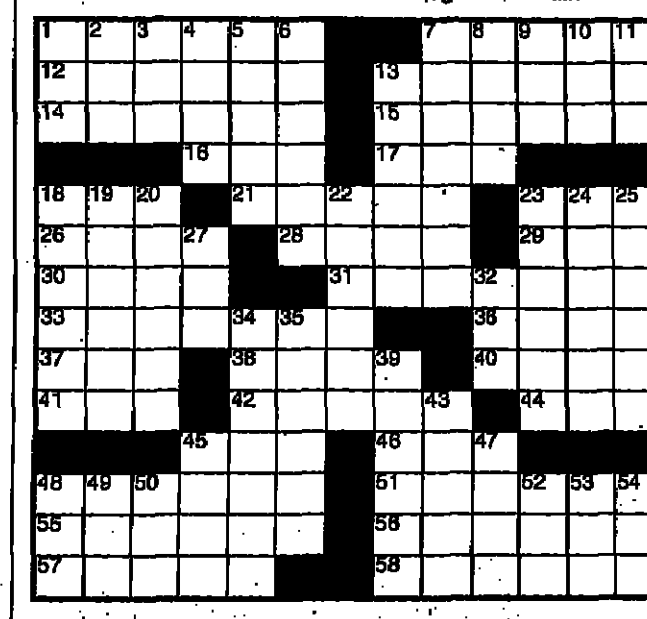
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Kind of license or justice
- Baseball-based sauce
- Flight to Medina
- Sarcasmo
- Get warmer
- Infuriate
- JFK lander
- Took part in a marathon
- Knock with the knuckles
- One of the Great Lakes
- Nb.
- Elliptical
- Levantine ketch
- Time period
- Coal excavation
- Arctic slight
- Sloping roof
- Buy — in a poke
- Hot time in Le Havre
- Club fees
- Golfer —

DOWN

- Guided
- Vicuna's range
- Rudolph's nose color
- James Bond, for one
- sells sea-shells
- Idaho product
- Rich cakes
- Inure
- Tennis player
- Googagong
- Weekday appliance
- "Consumer Reports" employee
- Beta
- Kappa
- the ramparts we watched
- Alter —
- Cane
- Dublin denizens
- Spiny plant
- Act of
- atonement
- Bring home the bacon
- RR depot
- Jerk
- Unusual, poetically
- Gallant
- Lower at El Alamein
- Fly
- Searched for gold
- Attacked
- Guardian
- Get there
- Complained
- Incessantly
- Gutterball
- Paul
- College dir.
- dega.
- Connecting device
- Author
- Demon —
- Pull of a cannon
- Push forcefully
- Margul's de —
- Aphrodite's son
- College deg.
- Boat
- Implement
- Test
- Bleater's abbr.
- Compass



SEE SOLUTION TOMORROW

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SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS

LOS ANGELES (R) — The following is a list of award winners at the Fifth annual Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Awards on Sunday in Los Angeles.

FILM:

Male actor, Roberto Benigni, *"Life is Beautiful"*
 Female actor, Gwyneth Paltrow, *"Shakespeare in Love"*
 Male actor in a supporting role, Robert DuVall, *"A Civil Action"*
 Female actor in a supporting role, Kathy Bates, *"Primary Colours"*
 Cast performance, *"Shakespeare in Love"*

TELEVISION:

Male actor in a TV movie or miniseries, Christopher Reeve, *"Rear Window"*
 Female actor in a TV movie or miniseries, Angelina Jolie, *"Gia"*
 Male actor in a drama series, Sam Waterston, *"Law & Order"*
 Female actor in a drama series, Julianna Margulies, *"ER"*
 Male actor in a comedy series, Michael J. Fox, *"Spin City"*
 Female actor in a comedy series, Tracey Ullman, *"Tracey Takes On"*
 Cast performance in a drama series, *"ER"*
 Cast performance in a comedy series, *"Ally McBeal"*

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT:
 Kirk Douglas



Actress Julianna Margulies from *"Ally McBeal"* holds up her award for "Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Comedy Series" (AP Photo)

Actor Sam Waterston from *"Law and Order"* holds up his award for "Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Drama Series" (AP Photo)

Julianna Margulies accepts her award for outstanding performance by a female actor in a television drama series for her work in *"ER"* (AP Photo)

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1. Melt a facial tone (1)
 2. Lois Lane's co-worker left (1)
 3. Don't have hooptster O'Neal (1)
 4. Give hush money to Eries (1)
 5. FBI leader's companies with vans (2)
 6. Larger gun part (2)
 7. Text checker's hooptster builders (2)

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ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS WORDY GURDY

1. YAM JAM 2. BATH MATH 3. MYATT'S DIETS 4. HODS WOODS
 5. THIRTY FIFTY 6. YELLOW FELLOW 7. WALKING ALYBETH

PAR SCORE 120-130

by JUDD

FIVE RACK TOTAL

TIME LIMIT: 25

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

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SCRABBLE® BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION BY JUDD

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1. Melt a facial tone (1) = 9
 2. Lois Lane's co-worker left (1) = 36
 3. Don't have hooptster O'Neal (1) = 60
 4. Give hush money to Eries (1) = 19
 5. FBI leader's companies with vans (2) = 124

PAR SCORE 75-85

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KidSpot™ SOLVE THE REBUS BY WRITING IN THE NAMES OF THE PICTURE

CLUES AND ADDING OR SUBTRACTING THE LETTERS.

What are the real miracle drugs?

1. S 2. U 3. A 4. F 5. D

The

ANSWERS: ONES YOU CAN AFFORD

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WORDY GURDY® BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like CAT and DOUBT), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

1. Melt a facial tone (1)
2. Lois Lane's co-worker left (1)
3. Don't have hooptster O'Neal (1)
4. Give hush money to Eries (1)
5. FBI leader's companies with vans (2)
6. Larger gun part (2)
7. Text checker's hooptster builders (2)

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ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS WORDY GURDY

1. YAM JAM 2. BATH MATH 3. MYATT'S DIETS 4. HODS WOODS
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FIVE RACK TOTAL

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DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

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GRAFFITI®

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INTERMISSION AT GANGSTER MOVIES GIVES THE AUDIENCE TIME TO RELOAD

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PICKLES BY BRIAN CRANE



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE BY



MEG BY GREG GURFMAN



ROBERTO BENIGNI, GWYNETH PALTROW WIN SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS



"Shakespeare in Love," cast members, from left, Rupert Everett, Geoffrey Rush, Gwyneth Paltrow and Ben Affleck display their awards for outstanding performance in a theatrical motion picture. (AP Photo)

"This is just such an honor to be recognized by my peers. You'll never know quite what this means to me," said Paltrow, nominated along with Cate Blanchett in "Elizabeth," Jane Horrocks in "Little Voice," Meryl Streep in "One True Thing" and Emily Watson in "Hilary and Jackie." "Shakespeare in Love" also won the ensemble acting prize for a film.

The ceremony honors actors in both film and television.

In other film categories, Bates, the politically savvy campaign troubleshooter in "Primary Colors," and Duvall, the tough, baseball-loving corporate attorney in "A Civil Action," won awards.

"I'm just thrilled, absolutely thrilled," supporting actress winner Bates said backstage, making no secret of her desire to go on to win an Academy Award on March 21 for the same role. "It's been on my mind ever since the nomination."

The other supporting actress nominees were Brenda Blethyn for "Little Voice," Judi Dench for "Shakespeare in Love," Rachel Griffiths for "Hilary and Jackie" and Lynn Redgrave for "Gods and Monsters."

Duvall won for supporting actor, beating David Kelly for "Walking Ned Devine," Geoffrey Rush for "Shakespeare in Love" and Billy Bob Thornton for "A Simple Plan."

Although the SAG awards are still young - in their fifth year - they are becoming a strong predictor of Oscar winners because of a significant overlap of the membership of the actors' union and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Last year, four of those receiving SAG awards went on to pick up Oscars: Jack Nicholson, Helen Hunt, Robin Williams and Kim Basinger. Only Gloria Stuart, who shared the supporting actress SAG award with Basinger, didn't get an Academy Award.

Two years ago, three of four SAG winners picked up Oscars. The SAG awards were determined by voting open to the rank-and-file members of the union.

In the guild's television categories, Sam Waterston won for lead actor in a drama series for "Law and Order." Julianna Margulies picked up her second prize for actress in a drama for "ER," while the ensemble prize for drama went to the cast of

"ER," its fourth award in the five years the show has been on the air. The ensemble award for comedy series was given to the cast of "Ally McBeal."

Michael J. Fox picked up an award for actor in a comedy series for "Spin City" and Tracey Ullman won for actress in a comedy series for

"Tracey Takes On." Christopher Reeve won for actor in a TV movie or miniseries for "New Window." Angelina Jolie got the actress award for movie or miniseries for "Gia."

Kirk Douglas was given the guild's Lifetime Achievement Award.



Actor Kirk Douglas holds the 1998 "Life Achievement Award" (AP Photo)

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An exuberant Roberto Benigni captured a lead actor prize for "Life Is Beautiful" and Gwyneth Paltrow took home an actress award that she dedicated to her mother at the Screen Actors Guild awards. Robert Duvall and Kathy Bates also received honors.

Benigni, the Italian director-actor-writer who created the comic-tragic story of a father trying to shield his son from the horrors of Holocaust, lifted award presenter Helen Hunt and spun her around, then said in broken English he was so happy that "every organ of my body is moving in a very bad way."

Benigni's award was the biggest surprise of Sunday night's ceremony and suggested the best actor Oscar later this month is a toss-up. He beat such strong nominees as Joseph Fiennes ("Shakespeare in Love"), Tom Hanks ("Saving Private Ryan"), Ian McKellen ("Gods and Monsters") and Nick Nolte ("Affliction").

Paltrow, awarded for her role as the heiress who falls in love with a young William Shakespeare in "Shakespeare in Love," paid tribute to her mother Blythe Danner as "the most brilliant, beautiful, profound actress I know" and dedicated the award to her. Paltrow also won a Golden Globe.

LAZIO KNOCKS SIX PAST SALERNITANA, FIORENTINA GOES SECOND



Lazio's Portuguese Sergio Conceicao (C) is tackled by Salernitana's Alessandro Del Grosso as Mario Gattuso (R) running to the ball during their Serie A soccer match in Rome March 7. Lazio won the match 6-1. (REUTERS PHOTO)

ROME (R) — Marcelo Salas scored twice and captain Alessandro Nesta claimed his first Serie A goal as league leaders Lazio recovered from conceding an early goal to demolish Salernitana 6-1 on Sunday.

Lazio's 12th win in 14 matches kept the Rome side four points ahead of Fiorentina who moved ahead of title holders Parma after beating them 2-1 at the Stadio Olimpico stadium.

Luigi Di Biase scored from a free kick and Portugal's Rui

Costa added a second half penalty to give the Florentine side their first victory since captain Gabriel Batistuta was injured a month.

"It's not true that we are Batistuta-dependent," said Rui Costa. "We're still in the fight."

AC Milan, who defeated 10-man Placenza at the San Siro with a header from Germany's Oliver Bierhoff, climbed into third spot, a point behind Fiorentina and two ahead of Parma.

A rejuvenated Juventus climbed to

sixth in the table after recovering from Ariel Ortega's superb opening goal to win 2-1 at Sampdoria with a last minute goal from Filippo Inzaghi.

Ortega looked like halting Carlo Ancelotti's honeymoon as Juve's new manager with a superb free kick in the 64th minute.

Nicola Amoruso leveled the scores in the 75th minute and then set up Inzaghi for the late winner that maintained Juve's unbeaten record under new Ancelotti.

Crisis-hit Inter Milan's winless run stretched to four matches at Bari where Yksel Osmanovski's 43rd minute shot gave the home side their first win since January.

The real hero of Lazio's victory was defender Paolo Negro who was selected only after passing a last minute fitness test.

Minutes after Ighli Vannucchi had turned in Vaclav Kofousek's cross to put Salernitana into a shock 31st minute lead Negro cleared a shot from

the same player off the goal-line. Negro equalized in the 44th minute after goalkeeper Andrea Ivan failed to hold Sinisa Mihajlovic's free kick.

Straight after the break Christian Vieri turned in Giuseppe Pancaro's cross and from then on Lazio never looked back.

Salas finished off a four-man move in the 61st minute and then scored his 13th goal of the season from Sergio Conceicao's cross in the 79th minute.

Salvatore Fiesi put through his own net in the 82nd minute before Nesta, whose return from serious injury coincided with the start of Lazio's unbeaten run, backheeled his first league goal in the dying seconds.

For most of the first half in Florence Parma looked the more likely to win a match billed by Gazzetta dello Sport as "a championship semifinal" to decide which side will challenge Lazio in the season's run-in.

In the fourth minute Enrico Chiesa's 20-meter shot cannoned back off the bar and on three occasions strike partner Hernan Crespo missed the target with only Francesco Toldo to beat.

But in the 43rd minute Oliveira made the home fans briefly forget the absence of Batistuta with a free kick taken straight out of the Argentine's repertoire.

Rui Costa increased Fiorentina's advantage from the penalty spot in the 56th minute.

Croat Mario Stanic pulled one back in the 64th minute but the visitors were left to rue their first half misses as Fiorentina celebrated their first win in five matches.

At Udinese, AS Roma looked set for their first away win since April when Fabio Junior put them into a first half lead and Marcio Amoroso missed a 82nd minute penalty for Udinese.

But Dane Martin Jorgensen leveled the scores in the 84th and four minutes later referee Roberto Bettin awarded Udinese a second penalty.

He first signaled for a free kick on the edge of the area but after consulting a linesman he ruled the foul had taken place inside the box. Amoroso made no mistake this time.

SERENA WILLIAMS UPSETS NUMBER TWO PLAYER

WELLS, California (AP) — Serena Williams used powerful ground strokes to upset Lindsay Davenport, the No. 2 women's tennis player in the world, in the second round of the Evert Cup tournament.

The 17-year-old, ranked No. 1 in the world, eliminated Davenport 6-4, 6-2 on Sunday.

"It was good for me," Williams said after the victory. "I wasn't hitting that hard, but I was really, mentally focused, and I really was mentally there. It was

a good win for me." It was the second straight time Williams has beaten Davenport, who won the tournament in 1997 and finished second last year.

Williams won her first career title last week in Paris, defeating Australian Open finalist Annette Mauresmo.

Fourth-seeded Jana Novotna also advanced, defeating two-time champion Mary Joe Fernandez 6-0, 6-3. Two-time champion Steffi Graf, seeded fifth, played steady and

advanced by eliminating Kvetoslava Hrdlickova of the Czech Republic in straight sets 6-1, 6-2. Graf needed only 52 minutes for the win. Graf won this tournament in 1994 and '96.

Other winners Sunday were sixth-seed Mary Pierce, who had no trouble beating Amy Frazier 6-0, 6-3, and seventh-seed Amanda Coetzer, of South Africa, over Julie Halard-Decugis, France, 6-4, 6-7 (6-3), 7-6 (7-3).

RESULTS OF EVERT CUP WOMEN'S EVENT

Results on Sunday from the \$1.1 million Evert Cup women's tennis (seed number denotes seeding):
Second round:
Serena Williams (U.S.) beat Lindsay Davenport (U.S.) 6-4, 6-2.
Jana Novotna (Czech Republic) beat Mary Joe Fernandez (U.S.) 6-0, 6-3.
Steffi Graf (Germany) beat Kvetoslava Hrdlickova (Czech Republic) 6-1, 6-2.
Mary Pierce (France) beat Amy Frazier (U.S.) 6-0, 6-3.
Amanda Coetzer (South Africa) beat Julie Halard-Decugis (France) 6-4, 6-7 (6-3), 7-6 (7-3).
Chanda Rubin (U.S.) beat Conchita Martinez (Spain) 6-3, 6-4.
Amy S. Brundage (Switzerland) beat Alicia Molik (Australia) 3-6, 6-1, 6-3.
Lindsay Davenport (U.S.) beat Olga Barabanshchikova (Belarus) 7-6 (7-3), 6-0.

SPORTS
WATCH

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
ORLANDO	14	4	.778	—
MIAMI	12	5	.706	1 1/2
NEW YORK	10	7	.588	3 1/2
PHILADELPHIA	10	7	.588	3 1/2
BOSTON	7	8	.467	5 1/2
WASHINGTON	7	9	.438	6
NEW JERSEY	3	13	.188	10

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
INDIANA	12	5	.706	—
MILWAUKEE	9	5	.643	1 1/2
DETROIT	10	7	.588	2
ATLANTA	8	8	.500	3 1/2
CLEVELAND	7	8	.467	4
TORONTO	6	10	.375	5 1/2
CHARLOTTE	4	11	.267	7
CHICAGO	4	12	.250	7 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

MIDWEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
UTAH	13	4	.765	—
MINNESOTA	11	6	.647	2
HOUSTON	10	8	.556	3 1/2
SAN ANTONIO	10	8	.556	3 1/2
DALLAS	6	13	.316	8
DENVER	5	13	.278	8 1/2
VANCOUVER	4	13	.235	9

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
PORTLAND	13	3	.813	—
L.A. LAKERS	13	6	.684	1 1/2
SEATTLE	9	7	.563	4
PHOENIX	9	8	.529	4 1/2
SACRAMENTO	9	9	.500	5
GOLDEN STATE	7	10	.412	6 1/2
L.A. CLIPPERS	0	15	.000	12 1/2

OLAJUWON MEETS DYING
BOY NAMED AFTER HIM

PORTLAND, Oregon (AP) — A 4-year-old boy dying of brain cancer got a rare treat — meeting the Houston Rockets star for whom he is named.

Olajuwon Wells, who has tumors in his brain and spine, seemed stunned when Rockets center Hakeem Olajuwon walked up to the boy and his family outside the visitors' locker room.

The boy frowned for pictures with the 7-foot (2.13-meter) future Hall of Famer, but then brightened up and smiled after the player went back into the locker room to get ready for a game with the Portland Trail Blazers.

"We show him who Hakeem is on the TV all the time," said Wells' mother, Clarissa Wells. "But I don't think he realized who he was until he saw him for real just now."

Mrs. Wells and her husband, Cornell, named their son Olajuwon because of their devotion to the Rockets. They had never seen an NBA player, or a game, in person until Sunday.

"He's a great player. I love the way he plays," Mrs. Wells said, trembling and tearing up after meeting Olajuwon. "And that name just got to me."

Asked when his son's birthday was, Cornell, a Portland construction worker, said: "Oct. 21, 1994 — the Rockets repeated that year."

The boy was diagnosed with cancer last month. His tumors are inoperable and has a life expectancy of about two years, said his doctor, Legacy Emanuel Hospital pediatric neurosurgeon Monica Wehby.

"He's a fighter," Cornell Wells said. "He told me himself, 'Daddy, I'm going to fight this all the way to the end. And I believe that.'"

UNITED AND CHELSEA FAIL
TO BREAK DEADLOCK

MANCHESTER (R) — Manchester United failed to break the resistance of a Chelsea team reduced to 10 men for half the match and were forced to settle for a 0-0 draw in their FA Cup quarter-final at Old Trafford on Sunday.

Chelsea had Roberto Di Matteo sent off seconds before the end of the first half after a second yellow card for a clumsy tackle on Paul Scholes, but they defended superbly throughout the second half which United dominated.

Scholes was sent off four minutes from time for his second yellow card for a late challenge on Bjarne Goldback. By then United had reluctantly realized they would find no way past French World Cup defender Marcel Desailly or Dutch goalkeeper Ed De Goeij.

The two were outstanding in a penalty area peppered by United shots and crosses in the second period and were largely responsi-

ble for securing Chelsea a replay at Stamford Bridge next Wednesday.

The nearest either side came to scoring in a disappointing match between the top two teams in the premier league was when Gary Neville glanced a header onto de Goeij's right-hand post after 38 minutes.

United also went close when Scholes forced De Goeij into a point-blank save shortly before his dismissal. It was the third draw between the teams this season.

Both teams remain on course for the league and Cup double but seemed to be suffering from a hangover following their home wins in European competition last week.

Cup holders and defending champions Arsenal, also in the three-way race for the league title, beat Derby County 1-0 in another quarter-final on Saturday.

Newcastle United beat Everton 4-1. Saturday's quarter-final between Barnsley and Tottenham Hotspur was postponed until

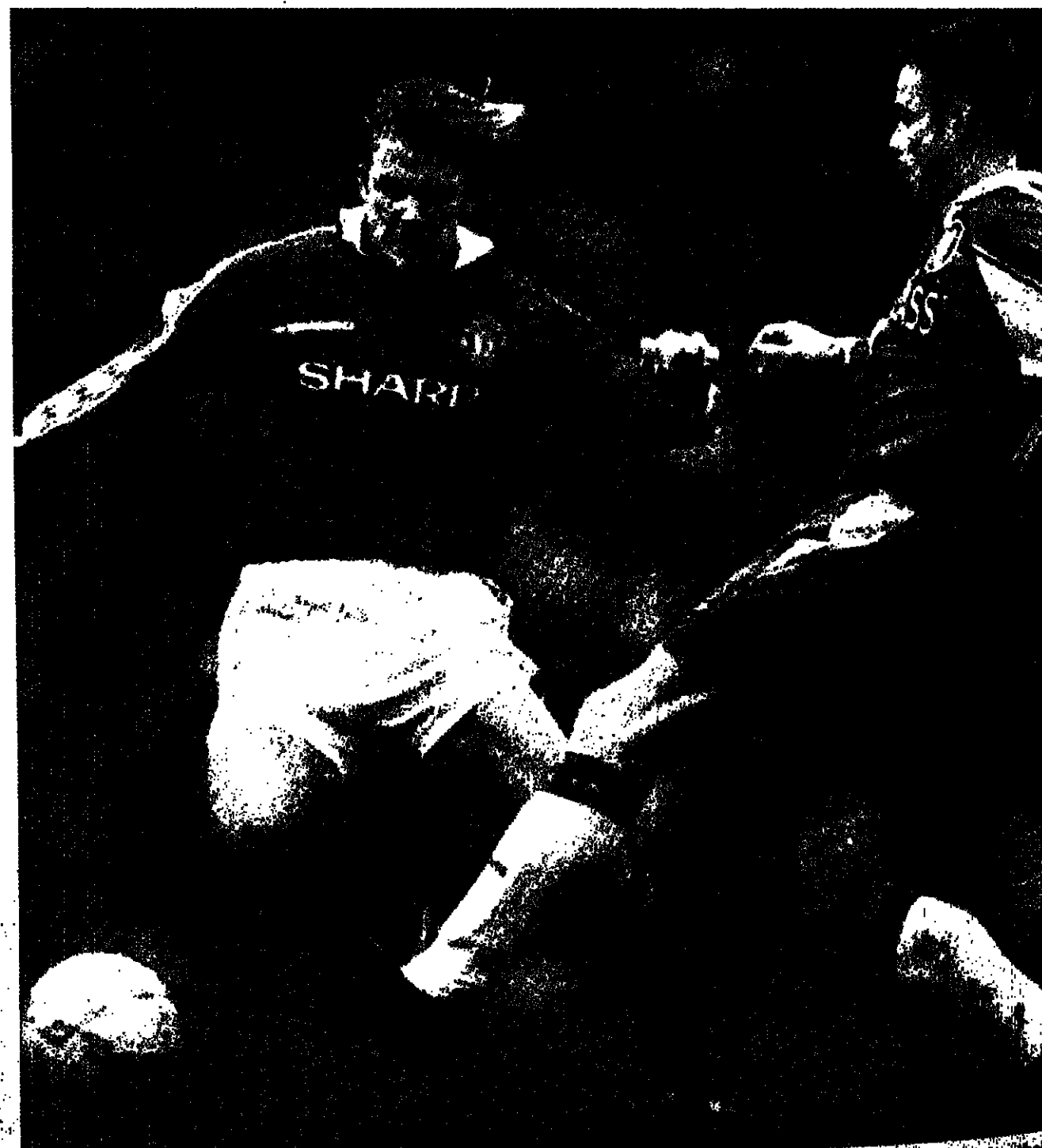
March 16 because of snow.

The draw for the April 11 semifinals: Newcastle United v Barnsley or Tottenham Hotspur.

Although United dominated most of the match, Alex Ferguson's decision to rest his 43-goal scoring partnership of Andy Cole and Dwight Yorke left his attack lacking its usual killer instinct.

Replacements Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Jesper Blomqvist were never able to impose themselves on the Chelsea back line and by the time Yorke and Cole were brought on with 10 minutes to play, the match was heading for a draw.

Despite the two sendings-off the game was physical rather than dirty. United beat Chelsea 5-3 at Stamford Bridge in the Cup third round last season and will have no fears about returning there for the replay.



Manchester United's Paul Scholes watches his close range shot saved by Chelsea goalkeeper Ed De Goeij during their FA Cup quarter-final match at Old Trafford. (REUTERS PHOTO)

Chamique Holdsclaw is shooting for a record that no hoopster, male or female, has ever achieved

SHE'S GOT HER OWN GAME

Standing ovations don't mean what they used to; sports fans today give them up easily and often. Still, few athletes get a standing "O" just for stepping on the basketball court during warm-ups. The instant Tennessee forward Chamique Holdsclaw appeared at the Southeastern Conference tourney in Chattanooga last week, a sea of orange and white rose in the stands. A chant of "Chamique, Chamique," rolled off fans' tongues as easily as the ponytailed, 6-foot-2 Holdsclaw glided down the court. "It's kinda weird, but I always think they're clapping for someone else," said the 22-year-old senior before leading UT to the conference championship. "I never get used to the response that people have toward me."

She may have to get used to it. Holdsclaw (her first name is pronounced Shuh-Meek-Wah) may not turn out to be "the female Michael Jordan," she wears number 23, too, but in honor of her favorite Biblical psalm, not MJ. But she certainly has the skills and the charisma to become the breakthrough player the WNBA covets, propelling women's hoops toward major-league status. Just ask Jordan. "Meek is fun to watch—exciting with a lot of skills," he says. "She'll definitely take women's sports to a new high." Holdsclaw is already pretty far up there. This week-end Tennessee, 28-2 and ranked second in the nation, begins defending its NCAA title. If the Lady Volunteers win again,

Holdsclaw will have captured four NCAA crowns on top of four state high-school championships (at Christ the King High School in Queens, N.Y.). And that's something no basketball player—male, female or Michael—has ever achieved.

"I just like to win basketball games," Chamique says. "That's what motivates me." In the SEC tournament, Tennessee trailed at halftime in two out of three of its games. Each time Holdsclaw rallied the team, averaging 21 points, 11 rebounds and 8 assists per game—nearly a triple-double. And in the most frenetic moments, Holdsclaw remains calm and fluid, with a dazzling array of spin moves. She likes to play close to the basket, using her long legs to snake through the lane for a layup or rebound and her long arms to loft fall-away-a-la MJ jumpers.

About the only question left is how she would deal with defeat, an inevitable part of the pro game. Holdsclaw insists she can handle losing and more. "My grandmother taught me to count my blessings," she says. "There's always an upside to whatever bad happens."

When her parents' marriage broke up, 11-year-old Chamique moved into her grandmother's warm, stable home. Around the projects in Queens' Astoria neighborhood, Chamique was known as "Flat Out" because she would flat-out drop anything to play basketball. "Big boys, small boys, whoever, I was always ready to take

them on," she says. "I wasn't scared of anybody's game." Her grandmother, who had played basketball as a girl in Alabama, tolerated her court obsession, except on Sundays when it conflicted with church. "Sometimes she had to put her foot down, but that was the only trouble she had out of me," says Holdsclaw.

At Tennessee, Chamique has been joined by 6-foot-1 Tamika Catchings and 5-foot-10 Semeka Randall, inspiring one of sports' best nicknames, "The Meeks." They and coach Pat Summitt have created college ball's greatest dynasty since UCLA's men's powerhouse a quarter century ago. "Chamique gets the most attention," says Randall, "but we understand 'cause she deserves it." Last year Holdsclaw passed up a chance to cash in on a bidding war between the WNBA and the now defunct ABL, opting to remain in college to pursue her degree and the unprecedented title sweep.

After the NCAA's, Chamique will go pro. The WNBA's Washington Mystics owns the first draft choice, and the entire league awaits eagerly. Says league president Valerie Ackerman, "We're hopeful that just as the casual fan would turn out to see Jordan, they'll turn out to see Chamique." Could happen. Holdsclaw is savvy and telegenic (Spike Lee wanted to cast her in a hoops movie, but NCAA rules prevented it). Though previous players have had comparable skills, she arrives when women's sports are increasingly popular, even fashionable. As her sport redefines itself, Chamique could be the cover girl on the dictionary.

By ALLISON SAMUELS and MARK STARR

MCGWIRE
HITS FIRST
HOME RUN
OF THE
SEASON

Big Mac is on the board

JUPITER, Florida (AP) — Mark McGwire hit his first home run of 1999, a trademark shot high over the left-field wall Sunday for the St. Louis Cardinals in a 6-1 U.S. major league baseball exhibition win over the Montreal Expos.

McGwire wasted no time finding his home-run swing coming off his record-breaking season of 70. The three-run drive came in just his second official at-bat of the spring.

"It's nice to get it out of the way," McGwire said. "But it's only spring training."

"Just see the ball, hit the ball," he said. "I believe it should never be changed."

McGwire homered a day after Sammy Sosa hit No. 1 for the Chicago Cubs. McGwire won the home run race 70-66 last year, and both beat the record held by Babe Ruth and then broken by Roger Maris. But there's no race — at least, not now — and McGwire said he didn't even know about his rival's home run. A sellout crowd at Roger Dean Stadium got exactly what it wanted when McGwire launched a high drive that easily

cleared the left-field wall in the second inning. He crunched an inside fastball from rookie lefty Ted Lilly.

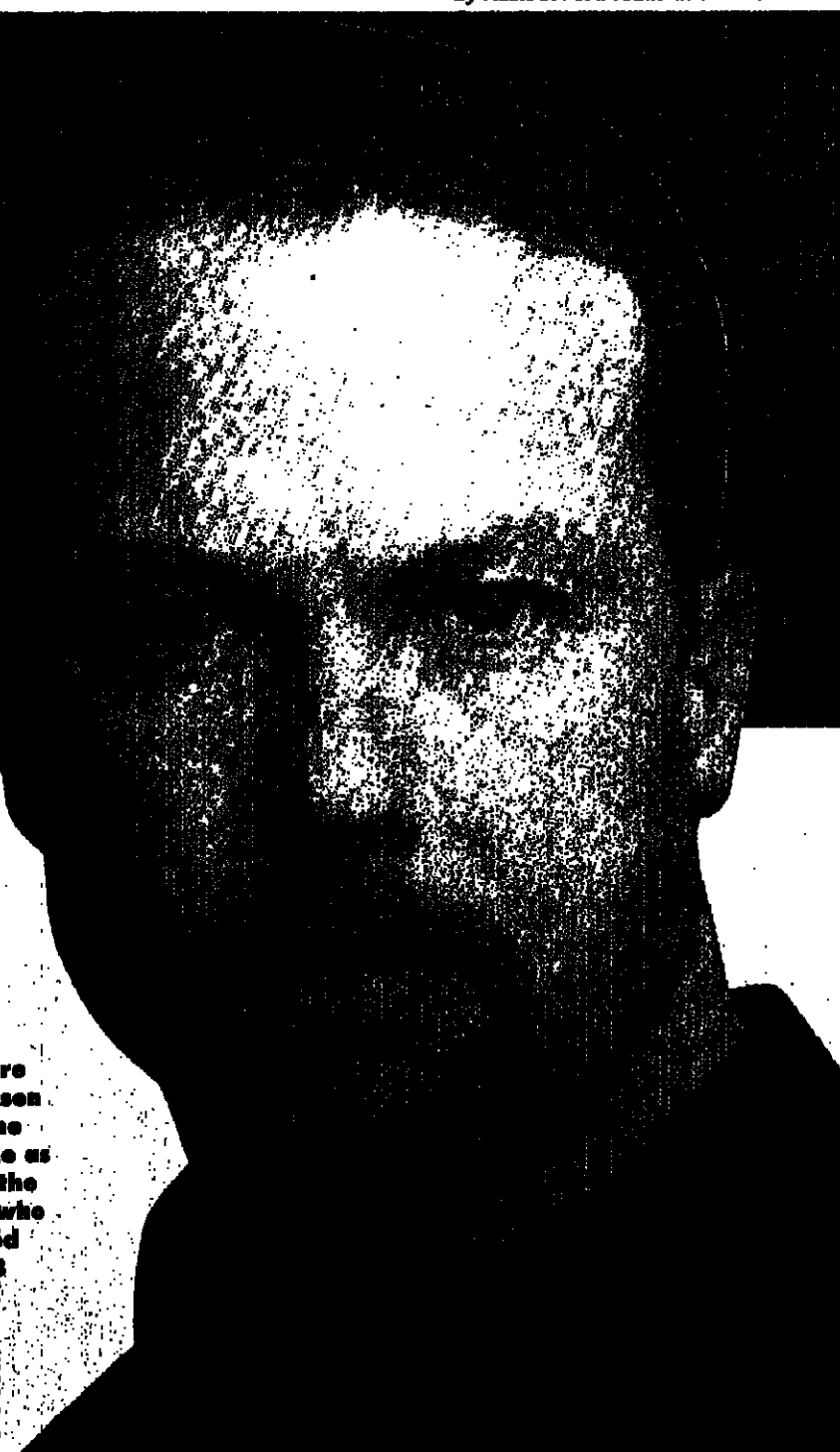
"I've never seen anything like that," the 23-year-old pitching prospect said. "I mean, it was loud."

McGwire had a slight smile after he stepped on home plate. J.D. Drew, Carlos Baerga and several other Cardinals greeted him, but McGwire did not punctuate this homer with his trademark punch-to-the-gut routine that became his stamp during his historic season.

The 6,912 fans, many of them wearing No. 25 McGwire jerseys, responded with a standing ovation.

McGwire hit seven home runs last year in exhibition play. The Cardinals share their training complex with Montreal, and the Expos are plenty familiar with McGwire. The All-Star first baseman hit his final five home runs last season against them, and six overall.

McGwire was chosen by Time magazine as one of the people who shaped 1998



LOOKING FOR MY PRINCE CHARMING

Al-Sadiq had been seriously described as being Kumait and Adhim in color, suggesting that he was probably a dark bay or a liver chestnut with dark mane and tail. He was said to have been marked with white forehead blaze, two hind socks, and a blaze on the forelimbs.

Al-Sadiq, Abog, and Muhammad Ibn Yahya Ibn Sahi Ibn Baitham, all had noticed that the Prophet owned a horse named al-Buhayr, which means a "horse with a long whinny" according to Ibn al-Jawzi. Al-Imam al-Nawasi was also known as Al-Jar ("the grey mouse") and Al-Nabi ("the prophet"). Al-Muqarrar was purchased by the Prophet Muhammad from a Bedouin of the Banu Quraysh, the tribe of the Prophet, for 400 dirhams. In the other details of this transaction (taken from the hadiths), it was stated that when we turn our attention to the hadiths, we can see that the Prophet himself, Muhammad,

Director Rasool Dahhak hands a student a certificate of appreciation for participating in an environmental competition.